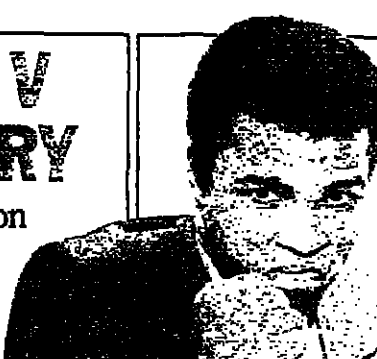




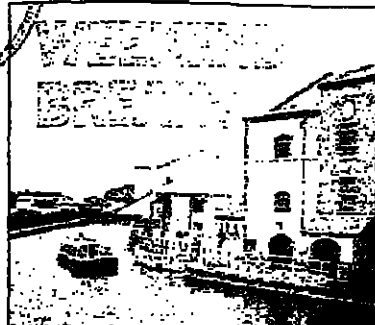
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Brian Glanville on the Ali legend  
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**SAVE UP TO £129 AT FORTE HOTELS**

Widdecombe accuses 'man whose reaction to attack is denial and semantic prestidigitation'

## Savaging for Howard's Tory hopes

By Philip Webster, Political Editor

ANN WIDDECOMBE, the former Prisons Minister, dealt a severe blow to Michael Howard's Conservative leadership ambitions yesterday by accusing him of misleading the House of Commons and mishandling the sacking of Derek Lewis as head of the prison service.

In an impassioned 40-minute speech to MPs, Miss Widdecombe drew startled gasps as she delivered a lengthy personal attack on the former Home Secretary, whom she has admitted she wants to stop winning the Tory crown.

She described him as a man whose "first reaction to attack is denial and semantic prestidigitation".

Standing two benches behind an impassive Mr Howard, who was sitting on the front bench and was due to speak later on, Miss Widdecombe used internal Home Office documents to flesh out her repeated claims that Mr Howard had not spelt out the full truth about the transfer of John Marriott, the governor of Parkhurst prison, in the wake of the breakout of three top security prisoners in January 1995.

Mr Howard's supporters immediately claimed that Miss Widdecombe had said little new in her onslaught and that his leadership hopes would have been helped by the fact that the issue could now be brought to a close.

"Michael emerges strengthened from all of this. He is still a serious contender to lead the

party," one of his senior aides said. But that was not the view of many Conservative MPs who felt that the public dispute had been deeply damaging not only to him but to the party.

Accusing Mr Howard of demeaning his office by indulging in wordplay that might be "unsustainable", Miss Widdecombe alleged that the official report into the escape had been Mr Howard's pretext rather than his reason for sacking Mr Lewis. She claimed that there was "evidence within the Home Office that he had wanted to rid himself of Derek Lewis over a very long period and certainly before the production of the report".

She declared that she wished that she had resigned over the affair herself. Reading from a closely-typed script, Miss Widdecombe's main charges against Mr Howard were:

□ That in spite of Mr Howard telling the Commons in October 1995 that he had not personally told Mr Lewis that the Parkhurst governor should be suspended, there was ample documentary evidence that he did in fact do so.

She quoted a note to her from a senior civil servant saying "this was the subject of the worst disagreement. The Home Secretary wanted suspension, Derek Lewis adamantly refused."

Miss Widdecombe said: "I say categorically to the House today that the documents in the department and the recollection of the civil servants and ministers concerned is that Derek Lewis was told that the governor of Parkhurst should be suspended that he was told to take time to reconsider his decision when he refused."

□ That in spite of Mr Howard's categorical statement that there had been no question of overruling Mr Lewis on Mr Marriott's future, there was again documentary evidence that Mr Howard had taken advice on whether he could instruct Mr Lewis to suspend him. After consultation with the Cabinet Office he was told that he could not.

Miss Widdecombe mocked Mr Howard for 14 times failing to deny that he had tried to overrule Mr Lewis over Mr Marriott's dismissal in a BBC2 Newsnight interview last week. She said the difficulty for Mr Howard was that he had been unable to tell the House the truth because of his insistence that he was

responsible only for policy, not for operations.

He could have admitted to the House that he had pressured Mr Lewis into dismissing Mr Marriott but "he could not do so, of course, because he had dug a hole for himself over policy and operations and he would never have had to dig such a hole had he been prepared to keep the director-general in place".

Miss Widdecombe said last night that she had received a mixed response. Some colleagues told her that she had been right to speak her mind; others said that the party could have done without it.

Her attack on Mr Howard was cool and savage. She described him as someone "looking for scapegoats" and as a man lacking the courage to stick by his public servants when the going got tough.

"Can he really not take responsibility for what he said?" she asked the House. "He has made much of how he is the one to take tough decisions. Tough decisions concern a great deal more than instant law and instant dismissals. Courage and

toughness are both more than instant law and instant dismissal.

"We demean our high office if we mistreat our public servants. We demean ourselves if we come to this House and indulge in a play of words which... may be unsustainable," she said.

Miss Widdecombe said that she had agonised for months over whether to go public with her concerns over the affair.

"But I came to the view that I could do no other. In the interests of giving very belated justice to Mr Lewis and some



Michael Howard listens impassively as Ann Widdecombe, just behind him, delivers her 40-minute onslaught on his handling of the prison service



Derek Lewis: sacking caused bitter dispute

### Barclays chief to lead tax shake-up

Martin Taylor, chief executive of Barclays, is to lead a team to integrate tax and social security benefits.

He will be responsible for co-ordinating across departments a plan of the Chancellor's. His appointment is intended to bring more business experience into government. Pages 2, 31

### Himmler plan for Bayeux Tapestry

Heinrich Himmler, the German SS chief, planned to remove the Bayeux Tapestry from Paris a week before the Allied liberation of the city.

A message sent on August 18, 1944 to an SS officer was intercepted and decoded by the Government Code and Cypher School at Bletchley Park. Page 8

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## Cigarette adverts ban could kill top British sports events

By Ian Murray and Carol Midgley

TOP sports events could be forced out of Britain or left impoverished if a Government pledge to outlaw the sponsorship of sport by cigarette manufacturers goes ahead, organisers said last night.

Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, announced earlier that sports sponsorship would be affected by draft legislation to ban tobacco advertising. He told the Royal College of Nursing annual conference at Harrogate, North Yorkshire, that a Bill would be published in the summer but it would be phased in slowly to allow the sports to find alternative sponsors.

The tobacco industry provides £8 million of the £550 million sponsorship enjoyed by British sport but for some events it is crucial. Rugby League, snooker and darts

would be worst affected. Equestrianism has yet to find a replacement after Silk Cut pulled out of the Derby at Hickstead. Snooker is short of sponsors for some of its championships and less high profile sports such as ice hockey and angling also fear they would struggle to find new sponsors.

Mr Dobson said the ban would extend to the logos of tobacco companies appearing on cars in international motor racing events, although he was not sure whether the racing colours used by some sponsors would have to be changed.

"A lot of the details have to be worked out. Some of the rules introduced in other countries haven't worked out which is one reason we are introducing a draft Bill so that we can get something which will really do the trick."

It is also not clear how slowly the ban would be phased in. Some tobacco brands have contracts until 2000. Regal will support the Scottish Masters snooker until 2000 and Benson & Hedges has agreed to sponsor the ice hockey knockout competition until 1999.

Broadcasters were also

Continued on page 2, col 4

Rob Hughes, page 53



## Lottery grants for Palestinian projects

By Alexandra Frean, Social Affairs Correspondent

THE first National Lottery grants to be awarded to good causes overseas include more than £3 million of politically sensitive awards to human rights projects and education schemes for Palestinians.

The £25 million of grants, announced yesterday by the National Lottery Charities Board, include £756,650 to Amnesty International for a project to increase awareness of the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Nearly £500,000 was awarded to the Westminster Foundation for Democracy to help human rights cases in Africa.

The Friends of Birzeit University received £200,000 to help and educate disadvantaged groups within Palestinian society and the Friends of the Spafford Childrens Centre of Jerusalem got £97,000 to help Palestinian children with

behavioural and learning difficulties.

Timothy Hornsby, chief executive of the board, said that all the spending on human rights projects would be closely monitored. "Around 12 per cent of the £25 million we are giving out is going towards human rights projects. It is obviously a very delicate area, but there's a long tradition of expertise with organisations such as Amnesty International," he said.

Most of the grants announced yesterday, accounting for 40 per cent of the total, are to welfare projects. Women and girls get 46 per cent of the money.

The biggest grant, just over £1 million, goes to ActionAid towards a four-year project in the Mubende district of Uganda to help 125 education centres for 10,000 children who do not attend school.

## Everything's lovely in my garden, says Major

By Damian Whitworth

WHEN John and Norma Major showed no signs of flagging after four hours trailing round the Chelsea Flower Show yesterday it became clear that this was more than a social visit. The lengthy questioning of exhibitors about the most technical matters and the accumulation of a mountain of catalogues indicated that this former prime minister intends to spend a lot

more time tending his borders. With the cares of office behind him, explained a friend last night, Mr Major is planning to extend the garden at his Huntingdon home into the orchard which forms a substantial part of his two-acre grounds.

In particular he and Norma are planning a second pond after the success of the first, installed last year. Mr Major once described to Tony Blair and Paddy Ashdown how he had put

suncream on his goldfish during last summer's hot spell. "He has come to gardening fairly recently. He found it the perfect antidote to the stresses of the job," said the friend. "The garden came to mean more to him when he was Prime Minister."

Mr Major, however, was not passing on green-fingered hints himself. Although it was Press Day he was not talking. He had more important things to concentrate on. "Why are you inter-

ested in me anyway," he said. "I'm yesterday's news."

The show entertained its greatest ever horde of celebrities including David Hockney, the French screen siren Catherine Deneuve, the model Linda Evangelista and the Archbishop of Canterbury. Later the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh made a private visit with the Princess Royal.

Back-garden beauty, page 5

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# Barclays chief to lead Whitehall Task Force



Taylor began work as financial journalist

MARTIN TAYLOR, the chief executive of Barclays Bank, was yesterday named to lead one of the most ambitious task forces announced by the Government. The 44-year-old Old Etonian will be the unpaid head of the new Whitehall Task Force.

Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, said that Mr Taylor will examine tax and benefits "to deliver the Government's pledge to streamline and modernise the system to fulfil the objectives of promoting work incentives, reducing poverty and welfare dependency, and strengthening community and family life".

Mr Taylor, a former journalist, chief executive of Courtaulds and non-executive director of WH Smith, will lead the drive to promote work incentives, to reduce

Brown picks Old Etonian to tackle tax and benefits, report Robert Miller and Jill Sherman

poverty and welfare dependency, and to strengthen community and family life. He read Oriental languages at Balliol College, Oxford, before beginning his working life as a financial journalist with Reuters, stationed in London, Paris and Frankfurt. He later moved to the Financial Times before joining Courtaulds, the chemicals company.

He rose to become chief executive of the textiles side before being head-hunted to join Barclays in August 1993.

In his new job, involving about two days a month, he will work closely with Frank Field, the new

Social Security Minister who is looking at longer-term plans to review the benefits and pensions system.

Mr Taylor, who last year earned a package worth £820,000, which included a one-off special bonus, faces a daunting job. He must unite four of Whitehall's largest and most complex ministries and agencies in the Treasury and the Inland Revenue as well as the Education and Social Security Departments. The project is expected to last for about a year.

Mr Brown said of Mr Taylor's role: "It is another example of our new way of working. Governments

in the past have been least good at issues which span departments... Today's appointment harnesses the drive of the private sector to the expertise of government departments to streamline both our tax and benefit systems."

Mr Brown added: "I am delighted that Martin will lead this work. We made it a priority in our manifesto, and Martin will bring to it a first-rate mind and ability to find practical solutions that make a long-term difference."

Mr Taylor said: "I am thrilled to be given the chance to contribute something positive. Our first job will be to decide on the composition

of the task force, which will be drawn from senior civil servants in the relevant departments. Barclays has been very supportive of my new role."

Patrick Ebraut, a national officer of Unifi, the Barclays staff union, said: "We are very pleased that Mr Taylor has been chosen for this very important task force. We hope that Barclays will introduce a minimum wage of £4.10 an hour."

Tonight Mr Brown will use his address to the CBI's annual dinner at Grosvenor House to underline Labour's determination to work with business. He will also announce that the CBI has agreed to

be a member of a joint working party with the Government to consult on how best to complete the European single market.

He will reassure his audience that he is not in favour of quick fixes. "With a Labour Government there will be no danger of growth on an unsustainable basis, no risk taking with inflation and no quick fixes," he will say.

His fiscal policy, to be outlined shortly in the Budget, would address the long-term needs of the British economy. "I have set tough rules for government borrowing and for spending and I will publish a plan for deficit reduction in the medium term," he will say.

City comment, page 31

## Leadership must be settled soon, says senior Tory

By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

SIR ARCHIE HAMILTON, a leading contender for the chairmanship of the Conservative 1997 backbench committee, warned last night against any delay over choosing a new leader for the party.

Sir Archie advised against any change in the rules to involve party activists this time, but suggested that the winner should be subject to an early vote of the party membership at a special conference.

Nominations close today for the influential post of chairman, a job that has to be filled before the party leadership contest can formally begin. The election of the 1997 chairman takes place tomorrow and up to five candidates are expected to stand.

John Major has made clear that he wants his successor to be elected as early as possible, and it was hoped that the first ballot could be held at the beginning of June. But MPs are under pressure from the National Union of Conserva-

tive and Unionist Associations, which represents party activists, to change the rules of the contest immediately.

One option being mooted is that a caretaker leader could step in until a new system has been sorted out. Tom King, the former Defence Secretary, said yesterday that he would be prepared to consider this role. Other senior MPs believe that an interim system could be put in place to give party chairmen a say, while still allowing the election to be held in June.

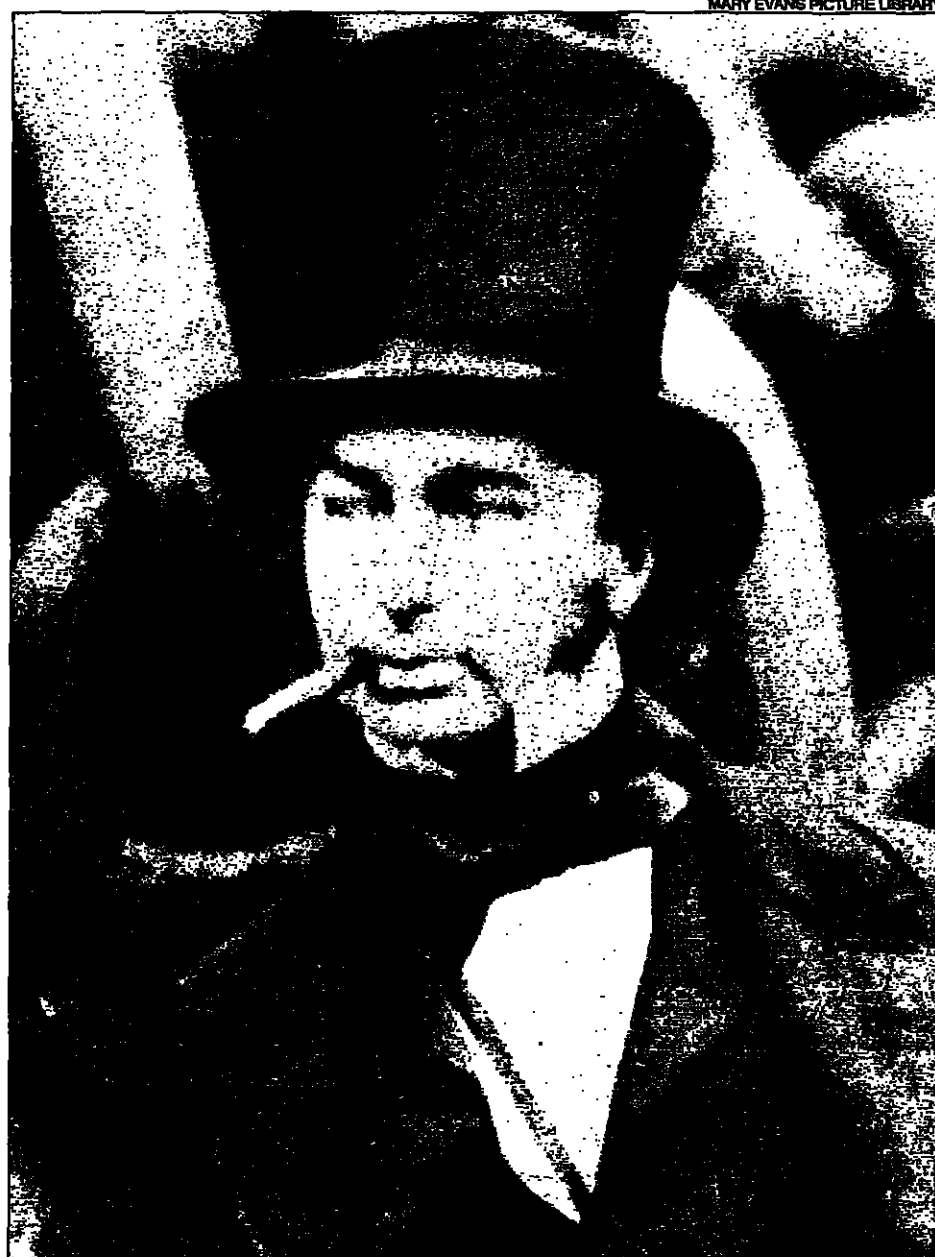
Sir Archie, a former Tory defence minister, wrote to all Tory backbenchers warning them of the dangers of postponing the election. He referred to the damaging allegations made by Ann Widdecombe in the Commons against Michael Howard. "The acrimonious exchanges we have witnessed to date reflect badly on the party as a whole and lead many to feel that we should settle it sooner rather than later," he said.

"However, if enough colleagues feel that delay is desirable, they must put up a stop-gap candidate who undertakes, if elected, to stand down as leader after a set period of, say, a year. Then the rest of us would have to dig in for the next 12 months while the campaign to decide who should really lead the party raged on."

Other expected challengers for the chairmanship of the 1997 committee include John MacGregor, John Butterfill, and John Townsend. Sir Geoffrey Johnson-Smith is still considering his position.

Robin Hodgson, chairman of the national union, has threatened to run his own leadership ballot of the 894 senior figures in local associations, including 659 party chairmen, and publish the results, unless immediate changes are made to give activists 20 per cent of the vote in the forthcoming contest.

Leading article, page 23



Isambard Kingdom Brunel will keep his cigar in signs promoting Neyland

## Brunel nearly loses cigar to political correctness

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

A PASSION for cigars by Isambard Kingdom Brunel has sparked a dispute over the political correctness of using the great Victorian engineer's image to promote a small Welsh fishing town.

Brunel used Neyland in Pembrokeshire as the terminus for his steamships on the Irish sea route, but recent plans to use his likeness to revitalise the town have come unstuck in the local council chamber.

Some councillors thought the cigar-smoking image might encourage youngsters to take up the deadly weed, even though they recognised that there was no better man than Brunel to stimulate the local economy and encourage tourism.

The first phase in the plan,

for which Pembrokeshire County Council earmarked £10,000, was to highlight Neyland's links with Brunel through road signs.

Bruce Harvatt, media consultants in Haverfordwest, came up with a chocolate and cream scheme to duplicate the colours of Brunel's Great Western Company. His portrait in stovepipe hat and cigar was then added to the road signs to be placed at the entrance to the town.

"There was concern at the general purposes committee about the cigar and the kind of message we were sending out in the light of the Government's proposed ban on advertising cigarettes," council member Ken Edwards said. "There we were, promoting Neyland with a man

with a cigar in his mouth. Although I'm an occasional cigar smoker myself, in the context of what we know now about smoking it's something you cannot ignore."

But fellow council members were quick to defend the striking artwork. Simon Hancock said: "I think it was taking political correctness a little to extremes." His views were shared by a majority and, when the matter was discussed at a subsequent meeting of the full council, earlier concerns were swept aside and it was decided to accept Brunel as he was.

"The signs can do nothing but enhance the image of the town and I cannot imagine anyone would take them as an advertisement for smoking," Mr Hancock said.

## Tobacco adverts and sport

Continued from page 1 waiting to see whether the legislation would prevent coverage on British screens of hundreds of events in countries where tobacco sponsorship is not banned.

Announcing the ban, Mr Dobson dismissed claims by the companies that advertising and sponsorship served merely to encourage existing smokers to change brands rather than to entice new customers. He said the legislation was part of a concerted programme to reduce tobacco

consumption "using every possible lever of government".

"We recognise that some sports, like smokers, are heavily dependent on tobacco sponsorship," he said. "We do not wish to harm these sports. We will therefore give them time and help to reduce their dependency on the weed and replace it with sponsorship from more benign sources."

Mr Dobson was cheered by the 1,500 delegates. Christine Hancock, the college's general secretary, said: "We are absolutely delighted. Tobacco is the

single worst cause of preventable death. It is a disgrace that no Government until now has taken appropriate measures on this significant issue."

Sir Rodney Walker, chairman of the English Sports Council and the Rugby League, said many sports would have trouble finding alternative sponsors and Robert Holmes, chairman of the British Darts Organisation, said: "Darts is under threat - it's a huge blow."

Rob Hughes, page 53

## Sinn Fein pair make a meal of visit to Commons

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

GERRY ADAMS and Martin McGuinness made a stage-managed appearance at Westminster yesterday ensuring maximum publicity for Sinn Fein on the eve of local government elections in Northern Ireland.

The two newly elected Sinn Fein MPs arrived 36 hours before an official ban takes effect. Until then, they are allowed to use the facilities of the Palace and yesterday they were provided with a glimpse of all that would be on offer if they were to swear the Oath of Allegiance to the Queen.

The MPs for Mid Ulster and West Belfast walked through the members lobby, passed the statues of Winston Churchill and Lloyd George and, accompanied by Tony Benn, walked through the empty chamber and passed the dispatch box.

After lunch, the two visited the Commons terrace to sample its unrivalled views of the River Thames. The Sinn Fein MPs paced up and down as they waited for TV cameras to film them from Westminster Bridge but left after more than 20 minutes when they were told the Radio Telefís Éireann crew had been unable to get on to the bridge because of building work.

As he left the terrace, Mr Adams said: "It's the most restful period we have had for 25 years."

The MPs held more than two hours of meetings with Peter Jennings, the Sergeant at Arms, and Donald Limon, Clerk of the House, about the restrictions imposed by Miss Boothroyd. Mr Adams said: "We are here in the first place to challenge what we see as a discriminatory measure being taken against people who voted for our party. As far as we are concerned the new restrictions are arrogant, they are anti-democratic."

Mr McGuinness said that the meetings with Commons officials had been "courteous" and "civilised" and that they had been told that the restrictions imposed on them would not interfere with their right to represent their constituents in dealing with the government.

Last night Mo Mowlam, the secretary of state for Northern Ireland, accused the MPs of engaging in a propaganda exercise. She said: "This is propaganda in my mind, it is about media headlines. If they would be in the House - they are not, they don't want to be in the House, they just want to get an office and the other bits

## Schoolgirl rape victim withdrawn from class

Parents of a 14-year-old schoolgirl rape victim have withdrawn their daughter from lessons after learning that her alleged attacker, aged 15, was allowed back to sit his exams without their knowledge. North Tyneside education authority defended the decision, saying the boy's bail conditions did not prevent him taking exams provided he was under supervision. But the girl's father said yesterday: "Surely in a case like this the accused shouldn't be allowed to go anywhere near the victim? Some of her friends said he was found wandering alone."

**Princess returns**  
Diana, Princess of Wales is to make her second visit to help raise funds for a cancer hospital founded by the former cricketer Imran Khan in Lahore, Pakistan. The private three-day visit begins on Thursday, said a spokesman for the Shaikat Khanum Memorial Hospital. The Princess will be guest of honour at a dinner on Saturday.

**Caning escape**  
Two British servicemen threatened with the cane for robbing a taxi driver in Singapore could be handed over to the British military authorities. Unconfirmed reports said it had been agreed that Royal Marine Richard Britten, 22, from Plymouth, and Craftsman John King, 20, from Alford, Aberdeenshire, could face a British court martial.

**Historic hearing**  
Cherie Booth, QC, created her own piece of history yesterday when she became the first Prime Minister's wife to sit as a judge. Assistant Recorder Booth, QC, sat in the 13th-century Mayor's and City of London Court hearing the case of a worker suing his former bosses. British Aerospace, for £7,000 damages over a hernia he had suffered at work.

**Pigeon reprieve**  
Plans to revoke the licence of Trafalgar's only bird-seed seller have been abandoned. Westminster City Council said yesterday that it had failed to persuade the Department of National Heritage to sanction the removal of the stall. The proposal was seen as a way of reducing the square's pigeon population by removing the birds' main food supply.

**Virgins celebrate**  
Fifteen consecrated virgins gathered at Plymouth Cathedral to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the revival of the rite, whose followers live in the community rather than in religious orders as nuns. The service for the Roman Catholic lay women aged 21 to 65 included Elizabeth Bailey, 64, who in 1972 became the first consecrated virgin in Britain since the 3rd century.

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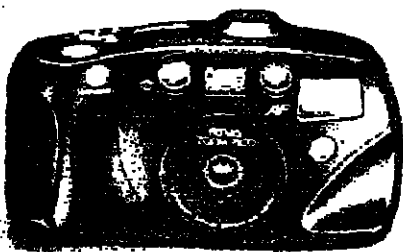
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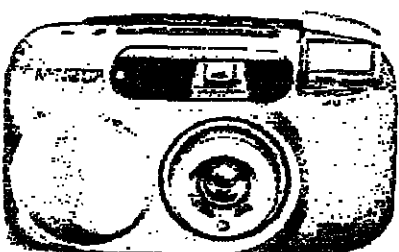


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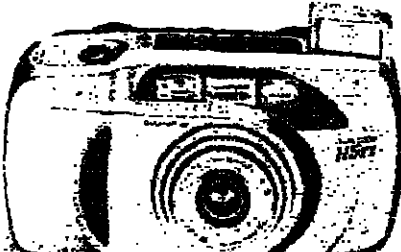
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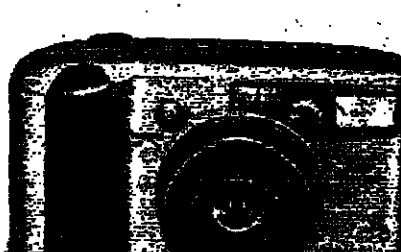
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# Nurses taken to Saudi murder court in shackles

By DANIEL MCGRORY

TWO British nurses accused of murdering a colleague appeared in court in Saudi Arabia yesterday manacled at the ankles.

Lucille McLauchlan, 31, and Deborah Parry, 41, slumped uncomfortably in their iron shackles from a prison van into a side entrance of the court for the start of their trial. Both wore traditional black chadors and were flanked by a dozen armed police officers.

Ms McLauchlan, from Dundee, and Ms Parry, from Alton in Hampshire, looked frightened and confused as they were led before three Sharia judges in the Islamic court at Al Khobar. The only time the women spoke was to plead not guilty to murdering Yvonne Gilford when the charges were read to them in Arabic and English.

The pressure group, Fair Trials Abroad Trust, said there was no need for "ankle shackles and such harsh and inhuman behaviour". Amnesty described it as a form of ill treatment.

British diplomats who were allowed to attend yesterday's two-hour hearing at the Eastern District Supreme Court said they did not intend to protest. The women were allowed to speak to William Patey, the British Consul General, who said they had made no complaints about their treatment. Their only anxiety was how long the proceedings might last.

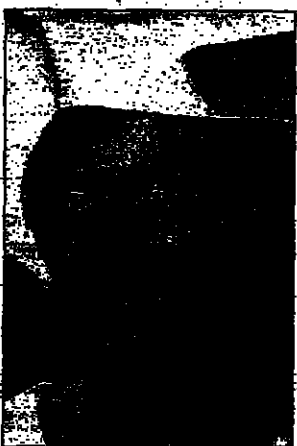
British officials are wary of creating any diplomatic incident with the Saudis, who were sensitive to criticism of their legal system ahead of the trial, which is expected to last until late in the summer.

A diplomatic source said: "The use of ankle restraints is not common just to Saudi Arabia." He pointed to the case of Louise Woodward, the British nanny accused of killing a month-old baby in her care, who was taken to court in Boston in ankle braces. "This form of restraint is used for all transit prisoners in Saudi Arabia. They were not handcuffed."

Stephen Jackson, of Fair



McLauchlan, accused of killing Gilford, below



Trials Abroad said: "We cannot keep silent as, after all, did not Foreign Secretary Robin Cook say that human rights must now be at the heart of British diplomacy? There was no need for the Saudis to behave in this way. These women were hardly going to escape. It is very unusual to shackle women, not even the Saudis do it. I've seldom come across it before, even in harsh Third World countries."

A spokesman for Amnesty said: "Shackling may be a form of ill treatment and it is disturbing to hear that they had been shackled unless there is a legitimate reason for it. But it would be hard to imagine what that might be. We will be watching the case very closely." "The women could be be-

headed in public if they are convicted of murdering their nursing supervisor, a 55-year-old Australian charge nurse. She was found bloodied and stabbed to death in her bedroom at the King Fahd military medical complex.

The nurses have been in prison at Dammam for six months after at first confessing to murdering Miss Gilford in what local investigators say was a dispute over a lesbian relationship and borrowed money. Their Saudi lawyer, Salah al-Hejailan, has told the court that the women have since retracted the confessions, which he said were only made on the promise that they would be freed from custody and deported.

Miss Gilford's body was found in her room on December 11. The authorities maintain the two nurses were later followed to a shopping precinct where one was seen to draw money from Miss Gilford's stolen bank card.

A British diplomat who was in court later telephoned the women's families about the proceedings, which were adjourned until today.

A diplomatic source in Saudi Arabia said last night: "We cannot give the family much more detail as we don't know quite how this trial will progress. We had been told that this first session would last no more than a few hours and then be re-opened for a fair while but both women have to return tomorrow."

"We are standing by to help their families in any way and if they wish to go to Saudi Arabia we will do everything we can. Both women are in good health, although they are obviously nervous."

The nurses' lawyer said the preliminary hearing was to cover issues such as power of attorney and to agree the dates for future hearings.

"They will fix a date for the prosecutor to read his report and 'outline' the list of evidence," he said. "We will be getting a copy of that and then we will respond to each piece of evidence. We may need many hearings for that."



The Rev Val Hamer modelling a chasuble designed by Jacqui Binns, depicting Christ harrowing Hell

## Clergy glory in heavenly creations

By RUTH GLEDHILL

THE Church gave fashion its blessing yesterday when ten clergy showed off vestments created by some of Britain's top clerical wear designers. The first fashion parade for ministers was billed as a showcase for "All things bright and beautiful" in new and traditional silks, stoles and copes.

The Rev Val Hamer symbolised that blessing when she raised her hands aloft at a preview while modelling a £350 green chasuble. Mrs Hamer, vicar of St Mildred's at Addiscombe, Surrey, said: "I hope people will see from this that a vestment has meaning. My chasuble depicts Christ harrowing Hell and it is beautiful."

The Rev Mike Starkey, 34, strode down the catwalk in one of the most colourful clerical copes in Creation. Mr Starkey, priest-in-charge of St John's, Finsbury Park, north London, is the brother of the fashion model Helen Starkey.

Mr Starkey lifted his arms, revealing the splendour of his cope, named "Genesis", and turned for an elegant exit, marching in tune to the Christian rap music of World Wide Message Tribe.

The Rev Andrew Roberts, a Methodist minister from the West Midlands, modelled a black coat-cum-trouser suit, its front lapels glittering with embroidery. From his designer's studio to his media-aware poses, he was the show-stealer, and had designed the suit himself. "Red, orange and yellow are the colours of the Holy Spirit and the blue and green are the colours of baptism," he said.

"The suit has caused a lot of comment when I have worn it for weddings and other services. I feel it says the Church is relevant to the modern world."

The show, which was previewed to the media yesterday, is open to the public today and tomorrow at the Christian Resources Exhibition at Sandown Park, Esher, Surrey.

## New look is goal for Delia

By PETER FOSTER

DELIA SMITH, not content with raising standards in the burger bars at Norwich City football club, has begun work on her players' dress sense.

The chef and author, who became a director of the club last year, has commissioned a new football strip from the fashion designer Bruce Oldfield. "All the other kits looked baggy, scruffy and out of date so it was time for a change," Mrs Smith said.

Mr Oldfield, who quietly admits to being a Middlesbrough fan, designed the strip by fax while working in Barbados.

## Drivers en route to shares bonanza on the buses

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

BUS drivers who joined a buy-out of their company three years ago are set to take profits of up to £62,000 each from a merger.

Staff on Brighton's Blue Bus network are planning spending sprees on the strength of the £5.7 million deal. One senior manager is believed to be gaining more than £400,000.

More than 200 members of staff bought 10p shares in the management and employee buy-out of the company. A rival firm, the Brighton and Hove Bus Company, run by the large Let's Go group, is buying shares at £1.80.

Ray Mills, a driver who

stands to gain £62,000, said: "Obviously, I am very pleased to have the money but I won't be going mad with it." He plans a holiday in Canada but expects to put most of his profit into investments for his retirement.

Mr Mills bought 20,000 shares, netting him a £34,000 profit. He later took the chance to buy a further £2,000 worth, delivering an additional bonus of some £28,000.

However, he still has some regrets over the demise of the small bus company. "I regret the loss of the buses gave the chance for small companies to grow and then we find that the big companies take over," said

Mr Mills, who has been with the company for ten years.

Staff members who bought the minimum 10,000 shares at 10p a share expect to secure a £17,000 profit over three years.

Shareholders are expected tonight to approve the merger at an extraordinary general meeting that will pave the way for the two companies, which have about 360 drivers between them, to merge. Administrative staff fear some redundancies, however. One secretary said: "It's fine for those who have shares but for the rest of us it is going to be a nerve-racking few days."

Business, pages 29-35

## Vice boss jailed with tributes for running the flower of his trade

By DANIEL MCGRORY

THE hanging baskets of parties outside David Batty's home close to Kensington Palace won him a civic award, and only added to his reputation as a nice man, a good neighbour and a kindly boss.

Yesterday a series of tributes over the way he conducted his business were paid at Southwark Crown Court as the flamboyant New Zealander was jailed for 18 months for running a gay brothel 150 yards from the home of Diana, Princess of Wales. The vice squad said it was "probably the happiest male brothel in Britain".

The true nature of his basement business in Palace Gate — amid the luxurious surroundings of embassies and hotels — was discovered after an undercover police operation, though the brothel boasted its own Internet site.

Barry Forward, for the prosecution, agreed that Batty was highly regarded by those who worked for him: "He did all sorts of things for them and helped them with personal problems. They were under no pressure at all. In fact, there were always young men wait-



The brothel was in the basement of this house. Vice police it was probably the "happiest" of its kind

ing to join and they seemed to leave with regret." Judge Valerie Pearlman was shown letters from contented clients and testimonies from some of the 50 prostitutes, who told how Batty had sent them on "improvement courses".

Linda Stradwick, for the defence, said the "stylishly decorated" premises had "brightened up the area rather than taking away from it". Alcohol was strictly forbidden. "Even the probation officer described Batty as refreshing, frank and likeable," she told the court. "There was open-

ness and friendliness. He provided his staff with regular health checks. The place was run to a higher standard than a very good hotel."

She said her client, who admitted living off immoral earnings, had even started paying National Insurance and was about to settle a £60,000 tax bill when police raided the premises.

Pleading for a community-service sentence, Ms Stradwick said that Batty, who had since moved out of his £30,000-a-year flat next to the brothel, was hoping to set up a gardening business in Aus-

lia: "Gardening is his real love." His hanging baskets had received an award from the Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

The brothel brought in almost £700,000 in two years. The judge said: "I accept, as both counsel have told me, that you operated a clean, well run business and there was no suggestion of coercion, violence or trickery."

"But you knew what you were doing was against the law. This offence was so serious only an immediate custodial sentence is justified."

After the case, PC Phil Rickard, of the Metropolitan Police Clubs and Vice Unit, said: "He operated in a very plush area and most of his customers wore suits. There were two rules to getting a job — no drink and no bitchiness. I think you could say it was probably the happiest male brothel in Britain."

Residents living in the red brick Victorian mansion block were yesterday disappointed at Batty's sentence. Andre Durand, an artist who lives next door, said: "Everyone around here knew it was a brothel. They were very busy and did good business."

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# A cry from the heart for candour in public life

The most telling point of Ann Widdecombe's devastating speech is likely to be lost in all the drama of the occasion and its impact on Michael Howard's fight for the Tory leadership. Her central plea was for more candour in public life and a greater willingness by ministers to take responsibility.

The Tories suffered heavily during their final years in office from the feeling that ministers were for ever passing the buck — resorting to "semantic prestidigitation" in Miss Widdecombe's evocative, if hardly catchy, phrase about Mr Howard. That was the burden of

the Scott report on the Iraqi arms allegations and a host of similar, smaller affairs. In many cases, ministers had not done anything particularly wrong, but they appeared to be dodging and weaving — often hiding behind their civil servants — to avoid taking direct responsibility.

That cry from the heart, and the soul, about standards in public life is what made Miss Widdecombe's speech so vivid and effective. At times, the thrust was in danger of being submerged by a mass of detail, intelligible only to those who have followed the Derek Lewis affair obsessively. The truth

rests on a balance of interpretation about how busy ministers behaved under pressure. A sense of proportion and perspective can easily be lost in this case, much rests on fine distinctions between "tell" and "instruct" and the mood of a heated meeting.

But the importance of such affairs is that they offer rare glimpses into the workings of government and into the behaviour of senior ministers. Mr Howard last night, and his allies earlier, attempted to brush

aside Miss Widdecombe's charges on the grounds that she had said nothing new and that he was merely doing his duty after the Learmont report had shown severe problems in the Prison Service.

## RIDDELL ON POLITICS

PETER RIDDELL

'We left the Prison Service without a leader and we shattered its morale when all was going well'

## Widdecombe details her charges against Howard

By JAMES LANDALE AND POLLY NEWTON

ANN WIDDECOMBE made a series of allegations yesterday against Michael Howard, the former Home Secretary, in a 40-minute speech to the House of Commons.

Howard's use of Learmont report as pretext to sack prisons chief

The former Home Office minister accused Mr Howard of using the report into several prison escapes as a pretext for sacking Derek Lewis, the then Director General of the Prison Service, in October 1995.

She said there were "serious flaws" in the report, produced by General Sir John Learmont, which should not have been accepted. "It is hard to conclude other than that report was his pretext rather than his reason. There is evidence within the Home Office that he had wanted, for a long time before that report was produced, to remove Mr Lewis from his post," she added that the handling of Mr Lewis's dismissal was "deplorable".

Howard told Lewis to suspend prison governor



Parkhurst escapes led Mr Howard to demand suspension of the governor

Lewis that John Marriott, the then Governor of Parkhurst prison, should be suspended after a break out of prisoners. This is a key allegation because it shows Mr Howard apparently interfering in an operational matter in the Prison Service. She said Mr Howard had denied this accusation when put to him in the Commons by Tony Blair on October 19, 1995.

Miss Widdecombe said: "In other words, he was categorically denying in this House that he had personally told Mr Lewis that the Governor of Parkhurst should be suspended

immediately. On Newsnight on Tuesday May 13 this year, Mr Howard was far less categorical. "What he said then was, 'I gave him [Mr Lewis] the benefit of my opinion in strong language'. The Newsnight version is the correct one. There is ample documentary evidence that Mr Howard did indeed personally tell Mr Lewis that the Governor of Parkhurst should be suspended."

She added: "In a personal note to me, a very senior civil servant who was present said, 'This was the subject of the worst disagreement. The Home Secretary wanted sus-

pension. Derek Lewis adamantly refused'."

She said that all the documents in the Home Office relating to the affair and all the recollections of civil servants is that Mr Lewis was told to suspend Mr Marriott "and that he was told to take time to reconsider his decision when he refused."

She told the House: "That is a very different picture from the one painted in this House on October 19 when all Mr Howard would admit to was 'wondering' whether suspension might be more appropriate."

Howard tried to overrule Lewis

Miss Widdecombe said that Mr Howard had told the Commons that there was no question of overruling Mr Lewis's decision not to suspend Mr Marriott.

"Oh yes there was. As he blatantly admitted last week and as also evidenced by documentary evidence within the [Home Office], after Mr Lewis had been asked to reconsider his decision, Mr Howard took advice on whether he could instruct Derek Lewis to suspend Marriott... Mr Howard was advised that he could not instruct him after consultation had taken place with the Cabinet Office and legal advisers within the department."

"It is therefore not true to say that there was no question of overruling the Director General."

Incomplete minutes

Miss Widdecombe said Mr Howard had told MPs that the minutes of the meeting which he placed in the House of Commons library "were the most detailed official account". Miss Widdecombe said: "Those minutes were not a full account. They omit for example the very important fact that Mr Lewis was invited to reconsider his decision."



Derek Lewis: Miss Widdecombe said handling of his sacking was deplorable

Howard's refusal to explain what happened

Miss Widdecombe said there had been much speculation over whether Mr Howard threatened to overrule Mr Lewis if he failed to suspend Mr Marriott.

"We know that he was sent out to reconsider his decision, we know that during that time advice was taken on whether or not he could be overruled."

"It is strange that Mr Howard refused to answer this question 14 times on Newsnight last week and was so tongue-tied that he could not explain, as he later claimed, that he was unsure about this element of such a traumatic disagreement and needed to check the papers."

Howard's threat to sack Lewis

Miss Widdecombe said that questions had been raised at that time over whether Mr

Howard had not only threatened to overrule Mr Lewis, but also threatened to sack him. "I can confirm that [Mr Howard] did talk about sacking him that day but not to Mr Lewis himself. Mr Lewis subsequently found out from a third party. It is an indication of the degree of ferocity that existed in that fateful meeting."

Miss Widdecombe said: "Mr Howard has a problem in that his first reaction to attack is denial and refuge in semantic prestidigitation."

She asked why Mr Howard had not come to the Commons and told MPs that he did say Mr Marriott should be suspended, that he "pressured" Mr Lewis to do so, that he told Mr Lewis to reconsider his decision after he refused, and that he considered overruling Mr Lewis. "He could not do so because he had dug a hole for

himself over policy and operations and he would never have had to dig such a hole had he been prepared to keep the Director General in place."

Miss Widdecombe said Mr Howard had defended his refusal to deny trying to overrule Mr Lewis by saying "he would have to check the record". He also said that civil servants would have checked his account and would have told him that it was wrong.

This, she said, "contains the familiar sound of Mr Howard looking for scapegoats. Can he really not take responsibility himself for what he said?"

£31,000 and our own costs in the sum of £16,000. That unnecessary bill of more than a quarter of a million pounds was the cost to the taxpayer for Mr Howard's decision."

She added that the move "severely damaged" the Government's relations with the private sector over prisons and created a "false distinction between policy and operations which has reverberated around the whole of Whitehall."

"We left the Prison Service without a confirmed leader for five months and we shattered its morale just at a time when all had been going well."

She asked if Mr Lewis's sacking eliminated the "disasters" in the Prison Service. "No. Only a few months later, approximately 541 prisoners were released before the end of their sentence. They did not even have to break out."

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## Museums may have to pool resources

By DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

LOCAL museums are so strapped for cash that one in Shropshire was forced to display a replica because it could not afford adequate security, Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the National Arts Collections Fund, the country's largest art charity, said last night. Others cannot even afford the train fare to look at potential acquisitions for their collections.

In a lecture delivered at the British Museum Sir Nicholas expressed dismay at the financial problems facing museums. However, he said that it

was "very unlikely that all the problems are due to inadequate funding" and called on every museum director to consider further savings. A pooling of service costs was a possibility, he said, and there might even be amalgamation or transfers of collections from one museum to another.

"Here in the capital, it strikes me that there is room for some rationalisation in the field of works on paper. Can every single museum throughout the country really justify its continuing independent existence?"

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# Industry faces water curbs to help the environment

By Nick Nuttall

WATER companies, industry and farmers face curbs and higher charges on water pumped from rivers, lakes and underground boreholes under proposals outlined yesterday by John Prescott.

Speaking at a water summit in London, the Deputy Prime Minister signalled that the economics of the water industry must now take account of the environmental damage to wildlife and wetland areas caused by over-abstraction. He said that many of the thousands of

licences which allow companies to pump water from the countryside were out of date, and the Department of the Environment was launching a review.

"This review will examine ways in which environmentally damaging abstractions, which often date from the issue of licences of right in the 1960s, can be equitably curtailed," said Mr Prescott. Michael Meacher, the Environment Minister, said the review would also include arrangements for revoking licences in areas where pumping

was causing significant environmental damage. The system needed to be better protected wildlife and areas where water was used for leisure and "quiet enjoyment".

The summit, attended by representatives from green groups, the water industry, consumer groups and the Environment Agency, was called after three years of drought.

Mr Prescott announced five years of mandatory targets to reduce leaks from water supplies, which would be reviewed annually. The targets are to be set shortly by the regulator, the Office of Water

Services (Ofwat). He said: "Leakage of water from pipes is too high. An average of nearly 30 per cent of the water leaks away before customers can use it."

"People are rightly outraged when their supply is restricted but know millions of gallons of treated water are being allowed to leak away. But on top of that, water lost through leakage means higher abstractions and an ever greater strain on the water environment."

Ian Byatt, the water regulator, said that failure to meet the targets would carry penalties, and could

lead to water companies being put into the hands of an administrator from Ofwat.

Other announcements, some of which were foreshadowed in *The Times* yesterday, include a demand that companies offer free leak repairs for domestic customers, and water audits of homes. The Government will be looking at ways to tighten regulations so that appliances such as dishwashers, washing machines and showers use less water. Mr Prescott also promised a review of the way charges were levied for water.

The summit signalled a weakening of Labour's opposition to water metering as a means of curbing demand. Mr Meacher said the Government supported selective metering of homes with big gardens and swimming pools, but remained opposed to compulsory metering, with concerns over the impacts in low-income and large family households, and where medical conditions required larger than usual amounts of water.

Mr Meacher said they were also keen to see improved compensation for customers whose supplies were

disrupted because of drought and also in cases where, because of contamination, households were forced to boil water.

The Government stopped short of backing a Water Saving Trust funded by a levy on companies' profits. But ministers want companies to report back in three weeks on how they might use the Environmental Task Force for promoting water efficiency schemes, such as the installation of plastic containers in cisterns to reduce the flush capacity of a lavatory.

## Nurses cheer as Dobson dashes their pay hopes

By Ian Murray, Medical Correspondent

FRANK DOBSON told nurses yesterday that they could not expect a large pay rise in the foreseeable future — and was cheered loudly by them as he did so.

"Times are difficult and settlements will be tight," the Health Secretary told the Royal College of Nursing annual conference in Harrogate, North Yorkshire. "You know as well as I do that we have to live within our means."

He succeeded in putting his bleak message across by wrapping it in a speech which had the 1,500 delegates cheering and clapping as he attacked the health service reforms introduced by the Conservatives and promised to dismantle them as quickly as possible.

The treasured health service principles of fairness, quality and equality had been breached by the outgoing government, he said. "The changes they introduced have created a two-tier system. That system is unfair to patients, it is repugnant to those of you who are forced to become involved in the unfairness."

## Militant is poised to lead Whitehall union

By Valerie Elliott, Whitehall Editor

THE hard Left is expected to win control today of a main Whitehall union. John Macreadie, a Militant supporter, is predicted to take over the leadership of the 125,000-member Civil and Public Service Association.

Mr Macreadie, 50, says in his election address: "As new Labour has abandoned its socialist principles, I will not be renewing my membership. I am joining the Socialist Party."

The association is expected



Dobson: promised to dismantle Tory reforms

and it is costing a fortune in bureaucracy, red tape and invoices. That is why we will get rid of it. We will get rid of the internal market."

After that, Mr Dobson could say nothing wrong. The delegates, who gave him a standing ovation before he even began to speak, repeatedly interrupted with cheers when he mentioned Labour's promises and hisses and boos

when he referred to 18 years of Tory government.

His promises were nevertheless cautious. Although the internal market was hated, there was to be no quick end to it, and he told the nurses that they, rather than "overpaid management consultants", would have their part to play in working out the future. Systems for change would be tried and tested on a small scale.

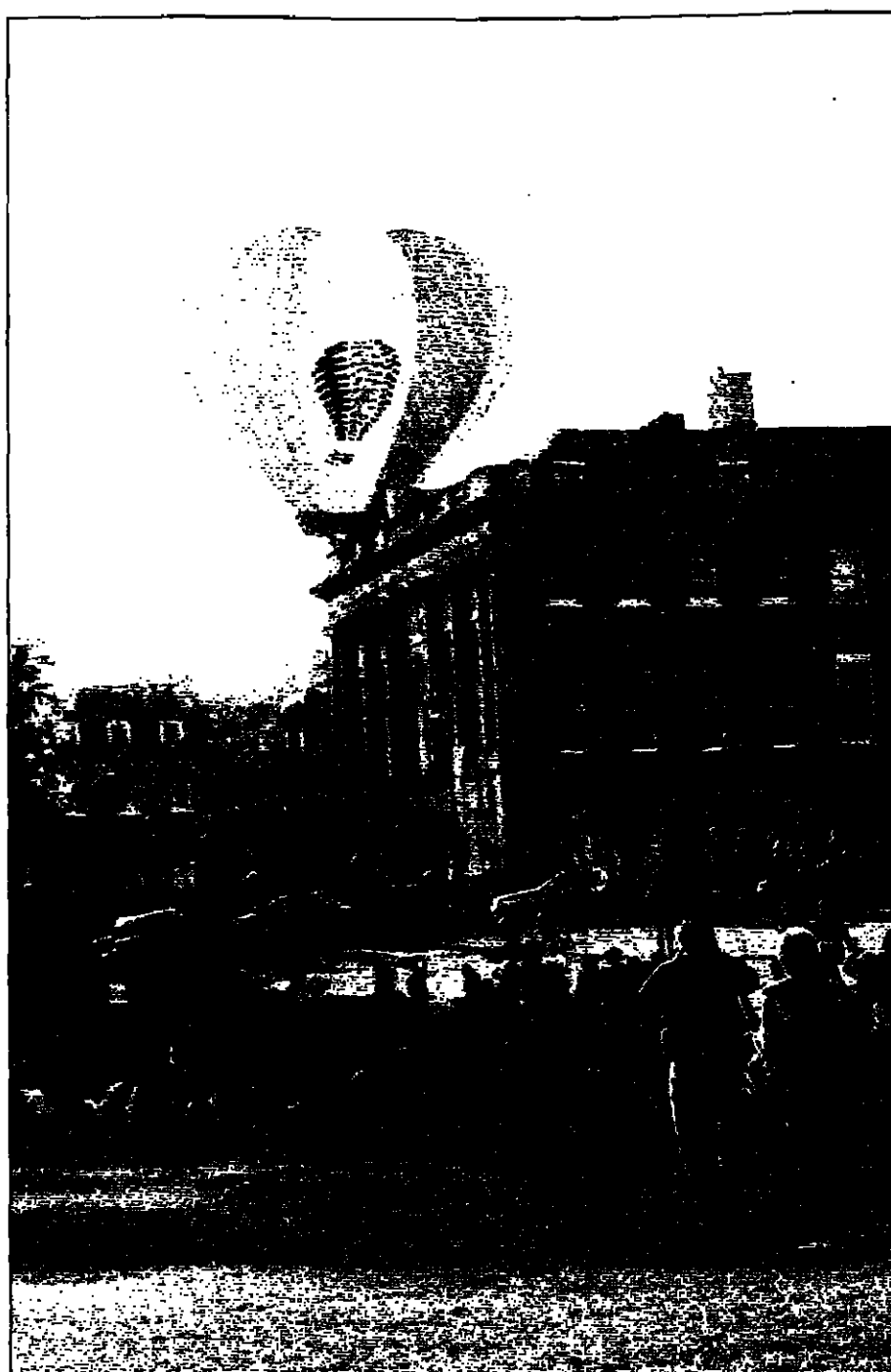
He accepted that pay and conditions needed to be high enough to attract high-calibre recruits and keep trained nurses. "When it costs £35,000 to train a nurse we can't really afford to have 140,000 qualified nurses not working in the profession." But nobody went into nursing to make a fortune, Mr Dobson said. He was going to introduce a revised system for national pay negotiations with local flexibility, but money would be tight.

As one step to improve working conditions, he was working on new guidelines to reduce the number of assaults on staff working in hospitals. "Nurses, doctors and other NHS staff go to work to earn a living. You are not paid to be the targets of violence. If you were, you'd be in the boxing ring. I am determined to stamp out loutish behaviour that puts you at risk."

There would also be "family-friendly working arrangements" to make it possible for trained nurses to return to the profession after becoming parents. He would back moves to give nurses greater professional responsibilities.

Christine Hancock, the general secretary, said afterwards that the conference had given Mr Dobson the warmest reception for a Health Secretary she could remember.

The nurses' latest 3.3 per cent pay award was implemented at the beginning of last month and negotiations on the next one will start early next year.



The balloon tangled with chimneys before the crew freed it and sailed on



Firemen inspecting damage on the Bath roofline

## Balloon trip turns into air raid as chimneypots topple

By Simon Horsborough

A BALLOONIST crashed into a row of Georgian houses, causing damage estimated at £20,000, before floating into the distance. The collision happened seconds after Shaun Pollard, the pilot, took off at the Bath Balloon Fiesta and lost control of his craft, narrowly avoiding buildings in the city's Royal Crescent. There were no injuries.

Yesterday, accident investigators blamed a strong gust of wind for the accident, in which the balloon basket smashed through a fourth-floor bay window and toppled chimneypots.

Margaret Stewart, who watched as the balloon hit the flats where she lives, said: "I could hear screaming and I thought, 'My God, what's happening?' The balloon was dragging along the tops of the buildings. I ran out and saw all the debris and

phoned the fire brigade." A spokesman for Avon Fire Brigade said that firefighters searched the rubble, fearing that the pilot or his passengers might have fallen from the basket after impact. He said: "He gave the buildings a real clout. When we arrived there was nothing left of a couple of chimneys and there was Bath stone everywhere."

Julie Bootle, the balloon's owner, said that Mr Pollard and his two passengers were unhurt but shaken by the accident on Sunday. "The crew had been trying to right the balloon and were in danger of falling out before getting it airborne again," she said. "At first it looked as if it was going to stay stuck."

A spokesman for the British Ballooning and Airship Club said that people whose houses had been damaged would be able to claim on the pilot's insurance.

### CORRECTION

A report, "High-tech angling banned as too fishy" (May 8), wrongly suggested that Mr Roger Mortimer was covertly using an echo-sounder in a fishing competition. In fact, he used the device quite openly, to the knowledge of other competitors, and for only a short period of time. It did not assist him with his catch.

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Codebreakers' transcripts confirm that Churchill had early evidence of the Holocaust

# Nazi police competed over execution 'score'

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

GERMAN military police commanders competed to score the highest number of executions in "cleansing operations" as Hitler's armies advanced across Russia in 1941, according to secret radio messages intercepted by British codebreakers.

Regular reports sent to the headquarters of the Ordnungspolizei (Orpo) listed mass executions of Jews and partisans in Russia and Ukraine, according to the files of German police traffic from 1939 to 1945. The messages, decoded by the mathematicians at the Government Code and Cypher School at Bletchley Park, were released yesterday by the Public Record Office in Kew.

The element of competition between Orpo sector chiefs is clear from a message dated August 7, 1941. After a battle it was reported that the population of Pazyk had opened fire from their houses as the German units returned.

The decoded message from a police chief read: "I ordered the entire male population of the place to be evacuated ... up to today, midday, a further 3,600 have been executed, so that the total of executions carried out by the Reit-Brigade up to now amounts to 7,819. Thus the figure of executions in my area now exceeds the

30,000 mark." The assessment made by the intelligence analysts at Bletchley Park, Buckinghamshire, concluded: "The tone of this message suggests that the word has gone out that a definite decrease in the total population of Russia would be welcomed in high quarters and that the leaders of the three sectors stand somewhat in competition with each other as to their 'scores'."

Files marked HW16 contain remarkable evidence of German war crimes against the Jews, particularly in the extermination and concentration camps such as Auschwitz, Buchenwald and Dachau, as well as on the Russian Front.

A Bletchley Park report of September 12, 1941, stated that the killing of Jews on the Russian Front by the SS provided evidence of "a policy of savage intimidation, if not ultimate extermination". The intercepted messages confirm that Churchill knew in the early stages of the war that Hitler had embarked on a campaign of mass murdering Jews.

The information came to the British leader after the successful breaking of the German Enigma code. The material this produced was the greatest secret of the war and Churchill did not dare reveal anything that might compromise the breakthrough.

Intercepts of the Northern sector of the German police in Russia, whose role was to "clean up" after the German Army had swept through, show the frequency with which higher officials conferred. The impression given was of a "higher direction" authorising all mass executions, focusing on three key figures — Himmler, head of the SS, General Kurt Daluge, chief of the Orpo in Berlin and another senior commander called Prützmann.

The decoded telegraph traffic referred to "special duties" and there were warnings to the participants of the secret killing missions to "hold their tongues". The language of the radio messages changed when General Daluge became

The situation-reports of the 5th and 6th were unfortunately not taken, but we have an interesting addendum to the latter sent on the 7th. (24.7.8.41) R. This reports an important engagement between Pol.batl.316 and Russian forces 1800 strong under the leadership of a General. The outcome is missed (part untranslatable), but the message concludes thus: "since the population of the place shot at the returning 1. Coy. Pol.Batl.316 from houses, the entire male population of the place to be evacuated by the 1st coy. The operations of the SS Reit-Brigade continue. By mid-day a further 3,600 have been executed, so that the total of executions carried out by the Reit-Brigade up to now amounts to 7,819. Thus the figure of executions in my area now exceeds the 30,000 mark." (24.7.8.41) R. The tone of this message suggests that the word has gone out that a definite decrease in the total population of Russia would be welcomed in high quarters and that the leaders of the three sectors stand somewhat in competition with each other as to their "scores."

A Bletchley report tells of executions by German police, who killed thousands of Russian civilians in the wake of the Wehrmacht's advance.



alarmed that "the unspeakable activities of his police in Russia" might be intercepted by enemy codebreakers.

Figures of executions were compiled under a new heading — Aktion nach Kriegsbrauch (action according to the usage of war).

However, "a slip" on the part of the higher SS and

police leader in the south in a situation report made it clear to the codebreakers that this was a euphemism for killings. The message from the police chief said: "Police Regiment South: action according to the usage of war — successes. Police Regiment South liquidated 1,548 Jews."

The complexities of decoding

the keys meant that the number of executions was probably double that recorded by Bletchley Park. Although it was not only the Jews facing the death squads, the messages all referred in general terms to the execution of "Jews". One Bletchley Park document says: "The fact that this heading [under Jews]

invariably produces the biggest figure shows that this is the ground for killing: most acceptable to the Higher Authorities."

One file contains no writing, just page after page of columns of figures representing concentration camp prisoners and numbers of deaths. In a file marked HW16-7, the

codebreakers reveal that on July 23, 1942, orders were sent out to chief police officers in certain areas of Russia to "reconnoitre suitable buildings for a decontamination station and a gas examination station".

Eastern Front photographs from 'The Russian Century' by Brian Moynahan.



Himmler: may have authorised killings

**Poodle's day out costs £1,000**

A Frenchman has been fined £1,000 after bringing his pet poodle on a day trip to Britain. Yan Provost, 26, was detained by police after the dog was seen sitting in his French-registered van at a service station on the M25.

Provost, a van driver from Laval, near Paris, who was making deliveries of car spares, told police he was not aware of the law against bringing dogs into the country. The poodle had not been inoculated against rabies. Provost appeared before magistrates at Redhill, Surrey.

**Bullimore sails**

Tony Bullimore, who spent four days in the upturned hull of his yacht during the Vendée solo round-the-world race, is to compete in the Round Europe race. The Birmingham businessman and a crew of five leave Cherbourg on June 1.

**£50 kickabout**

Peter Naylor, 19, an office clerk who was practising football skills in Kirkham, Lancashire, was fined £20 with £30 costs under the Highways Act 1980 after he admitted playing a game on the street. His ball bounced into the road.

**Mountain airlift**

A British soldier was rescued by helicopter after falling 40ft while climbing Mount Kinchinjunga in Nepal. Roderick McArthur, from Londonderry, was part of a 15-strong team climbing the 28,170ft peak. He was treated for minor injuries.

**Terriers surface**

Two Lakeland terriers which disappeared down a farm drainage pipe at Beckley, Gloucestershire, have been rescued after being trapped underground for three days. They were found six feet down by farm workers using a digger.

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could earn mileage points that count towards higher status in any of their frequent flyer programmes. Wouldn't it be great if you could enjoy the same high standards of service whenever and wherever you fly. That's the idea behind Star Alliance, a network of United Airlines.



# Quick-thinking computer tackles secret of universe

By John Shaw

A SUPER computer at Cambridge University could finally unravel the secrets of the universe, from its creation to the present day. The £2-million Cosmos, which was unveiled yesterday, will test scientific theories against practical observations.

Professor Stephen Hawking, principle investigator of the consortium that brought the computer to Cambridge, said: "The calculations involved are so enormous that they require state of the art machinery."

Cosmos thinks 100 times faster than the latest Pentium Pro personal computer and has 32 high performance R10000 processors and 8,000 megabytes of main memory. It is the largest Origin2000 computer in Britain. Although it is based at the university, it is owned and run by the UK Computational Cosmology Consortium.

The inter-disciplinary team working with the machine includes particle cosmologists and astrophysicists. Its members come from Cardiff, Durham, Oxford, Sussex and London Universities, Imperial College and the Royal Observatory, Edinburgh.

"The inter-disciplinary nature of this team is one of the great strengths of this work," said Professor Alex Broers.



Hawking: the team's principal investigator

vice-chancellor of the university, at the launch ceremony.

Dr Paul Shellard, director of the new facility, said: "Our mission is to push back our understanding of the first fractions of a second after the Big Bang, to unravel the enigmas and mysteries."

"In recent years interest in cosmology has exploded, driven in part by novel theoretical ideas connecting the formation of galaxies in our universe with fundamental high-energy theory and relativity."

"Many of these ideas about the early universe were first proposed in this country and on Cosmos their mathematical models can now be realised and directly compared with a

rapidly growing body of observational data about the universe. We can get results in days instead of waiting months or even years."

Professor Hawking, whose book *A Brief History of Time* has sold eight million copies, initiated the partnership that brought the computer to Cambridge during a visit to the headquarters of Silicon Graphics, which created the machine, at the company's headquarters in California.

Money for Cosmos came from a variety of sources, including the Higher Education Funding Council for England and the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council. Britain is a world leader in cosmology and members of the consortium said the super computer would help to maintain that advantage into the next century.

At present there are two theories about the growth of the universe: the inflation theory of rapid expansion after the Big Bang and the defect theory that the universe evolved in a phased transition, producing defects at certain points in its development.

Professor Hawking told a lecture later: "My money is on inflation, but we shall have to wait and see. It is such an elegant solution I am sure God would have chosen it."

The defect theory has been developed by Professor Neil



Cosmos will compare theories with observations such as these images captured by the Hubble Space Telescope

Turok, a colleague at Cambridge. But he said the simplest version of this explanation was incompatible with initial data produced by the computer based on satellite and telescopic observations.

However, he said: "I am still encouraged, because it is

progress even if this is ruled out. There are variations on these theories so it's really a mixed picture at the moment."

He said the findings would be reported at conferences in the next two months and would also be published in the specialist magazine *Physical*

Review. He said technical advances and the flow of information "have made us convinced we are on the verge of a golden age in cosmology."

"We want to crack the code of the universe," he said. "We want to be the Watson and Crick of cosmology." James D

Watson and Francis Crick were two young scientists who solved the riddle of DNA while working at Cambridge in 1953. Their laboratory was half a mile from the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics that houses Cosmos.

## Record rise in vegetarianism gives meat trade food for thought

By Michael Hornsey  
AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

A RECORD three million Britons are now vegetarian, an increase of 20 per cent over the past two years, it was claimed yesterday. For the first time, the trend has risen faster among men than women.

The figures, from a Gallup poll, appear to scotch hopes that the meat industry is recovering from the public concern over BSE. Graham Keen, sales and marketing director

of the vegetarian supplier Realeat, part of the Haldane Foods Group which commissioned the poll, said: "The survey was done in March, a year after the latest scare over BSE started. It has been argued by some that things were getting back to normal for the meat industry. These figures show that is not the case and that record numbers of people are consciously making permanent changes to their lifestyle."

The poll suggests that more than 5,000 people have been turning to

vegetarianism each week over the two years. A record 5.4 per cent of the adult population say they no longer eat any kind of meat or fish. The total includes 1.14 million men — an increase of 37 per cent — and 1,910,000 women, up by 12 per cent. There are an estimated 224,000 vegans, who additionally eschew milk, eggs and other animal-derived products.

Another eight million people — a record 14.3 per cent of the population — are avoiding "red" meats,

such as beef and lamb, while still eating fish and poultry. This is an increase of 21 per cent on the last survey, conducted in 1995.

The number of people citing BSE or "mad cow disease" as a reason for eating less meat rose from 7 per cent in 1995 to 22 per cent. However, 24 per cent gave taste as their main reason for cutting back. Eight per cent cited moral grounds.

Scottish men remain the biggest meat-eaters, with only 1.6 per cent succumbing to vegetarianism. The

poll, in line with previous surveys, shows the most affluent socio-economic groups are leading the anti-meat trend and are also the most concerned about the health aspects of diet.

Chris Dessent, of the Vegetarian Society, said: "This is fantastic news and shows that people have been switching to vegetarianism even faster than we thought or hoped."

But the Meat and Livestock Commission, the quango set up to promote the meat industry, dis-

missed the extent of the findings. A spokesman said: "The Realeat company comes up with similar findings every year."

"Our own surveys show that consumption of all types of meat has remained steady at between 63 and 64 kilograms a head a year for the past 30 years."

Gallup interviewed 4,200 people over the age of 16 throughout Britain for the survey, conducted between March 5 and March 18 this year.

Leading article, page 23

## Passenger sues over bus that failed to turn up

By Paul Wilkinson

A PROFESSOR is suing a public transport authority because his bus failed to turn up. He wants his £2.80 taxi fare and £10 court costs.

Robert Stanton, 77, a semi-retired botany professor, formerly at the University of Malaya, waited for the minibus last March after a visit to the Haworth parsonage in west Yorkshire. He says that he stood for more than two hours without seeing the bus scheduled to take him to his home village of Stanbury, a mile down the road. The temporary shuttle had been introduced while a bridge was closed for repairs.

Dr Stanton, who helped to pioneer the development of Quorn, the soya substitute for meat, said that the link service was not reliable. He is suing West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, which has overall responsibility for transport in the region. "The bus times are a shambles. They don't know how to work a transport system," he said.

The transport executive is defending the action, saying it is not responsible for Calder Coaches, which runs the minibus. It successfully applied to have the case transferred from Keighley County Court to Leeds for yesterday's hearing. Despite Dr Stanton's request that it should be heard at Keighley for his convenience.

He claimed that he arrived at Leeds yesterday to be told that the case would be adjourned until Thursday because the transport authority's solicitor was going to the Chelsea Flower Show. A spokesman for the executive said: "Proceedings are still active and so we cannot comment on this matter."

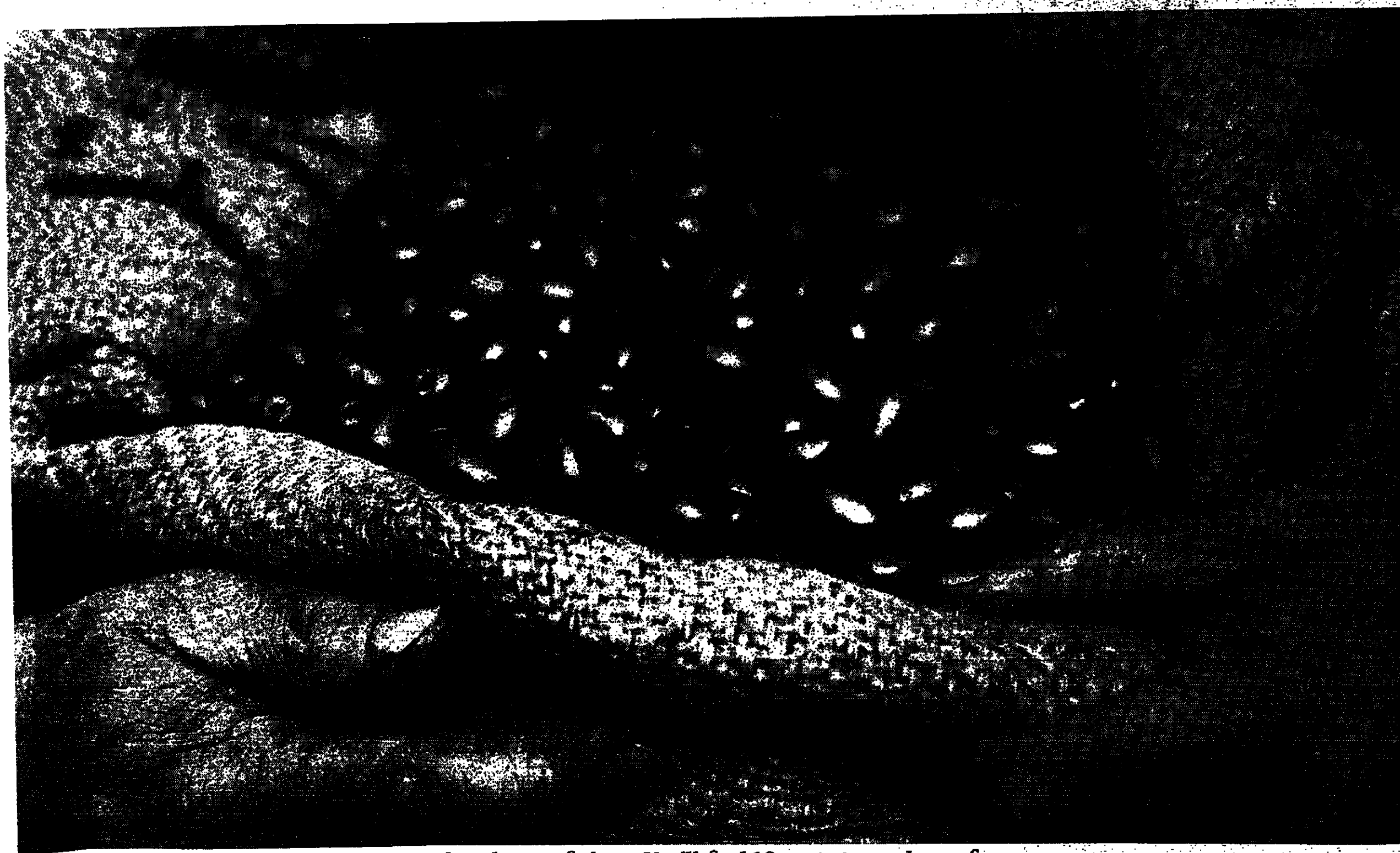
Dr Stanton, who is an expert on agriculture, horticulture and microbiogenetics, is working on a project to produce starch from sago palm suitable for making bread and spaghetti.

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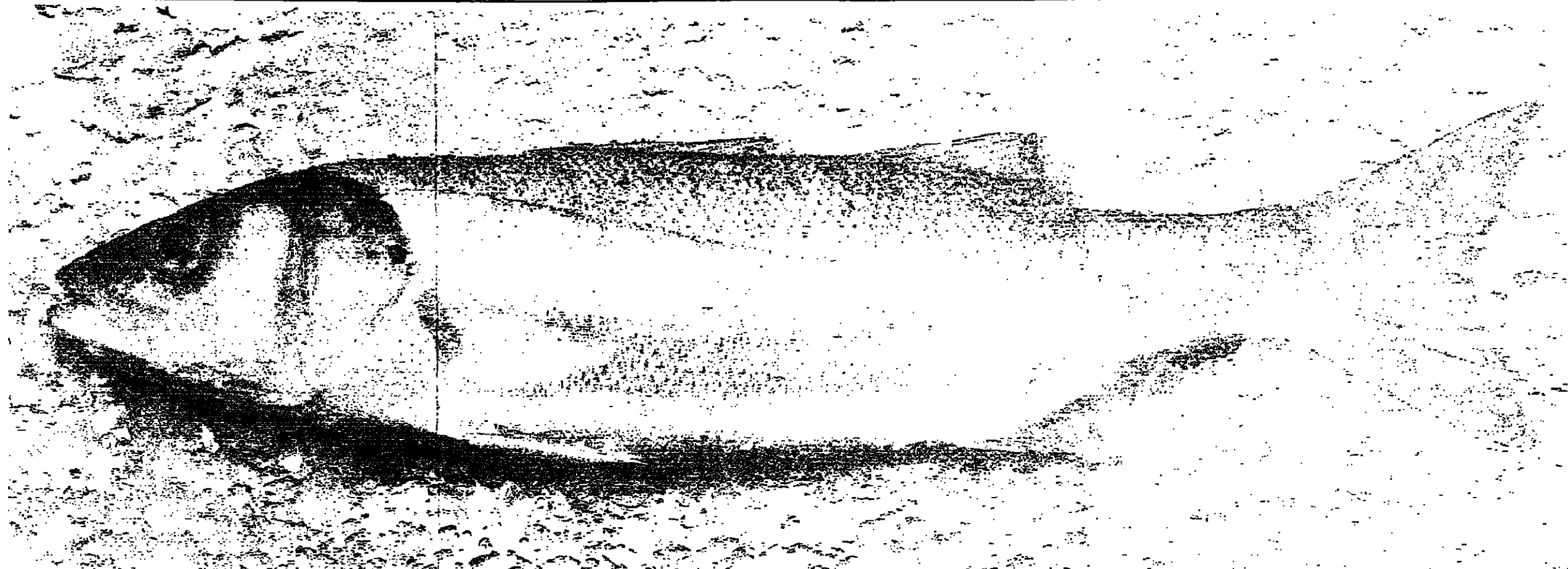


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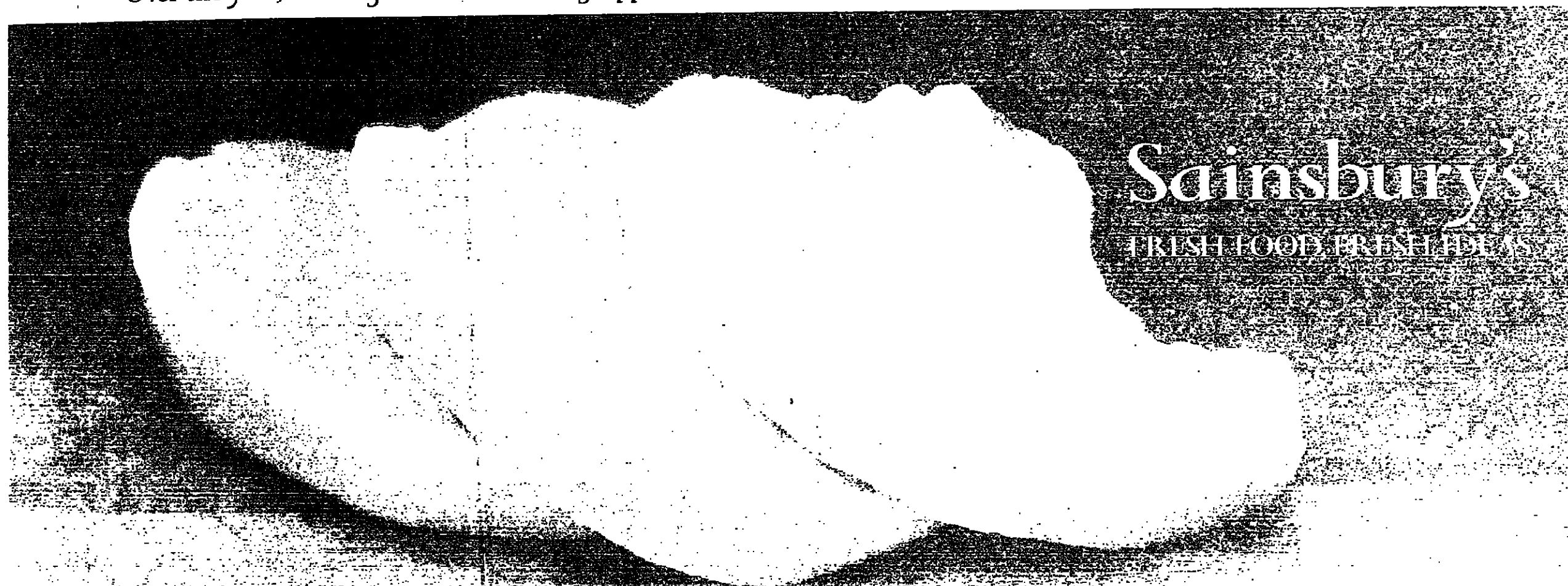
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# Sarwar sues paper over election bribery claims

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

MOHAMMED SARWAR, Labour MP for Glasgow Govan, issued a libel writ yesterday against the *News of the World*, which published claims that he paid a £5,000 bribe to a rival general election candidate.

The newspaper said that it was standing by its story, which alleged that Islam Badar, an independent candidate, was paid to fight a losing campaign to avoid splitting the Labour vote. Mr Badar was thought to be abroad yesterday.

A report into the affair is being prepared for consideration tomorrow by the Labour Party's National Executive Committee. The NEC will set up an inquiry into whether Mr Sarwar has broken Labour rules, including a new one against bringing the party into disrepute.

Mr Sarwar denies any wrongdoing and says that the police inquiry into the claims

against him will not interfere with his duties as an MP.

Yesterday as the *News of the World* passed to the fraud squad tape recordings and the £5,000 allegedly used for the bribe, further allegations were made. Jamil Abbassi, the independent Conservative candidate for Glasgow Govan, said he had been offered £50,000 not to stand by men he says were supporters of Mr Sarwar. "I refused the offer. I am a man of dignity and principle."

He said he was sure that Mr Sarwar was not personally involved, and that he knew the men but was afraid to identify them.

Peter Paton, an independent Labour candidate who has long been an opponent of Mr Sarwar, claimed he had also been approached by an intermediary acting for a key Sarwar supporter who wanted to donate "a four-figure sum" to his campaign, which he

said could have been used to compromise him. Mr Paton, who has made many accusations against Mr Sarwar in the past and has reported alleged electoral malpractice to police, said the approach was made in March. He had not told the police about it until now because he wanted to protect his source.

Yesterday Mr Sarwar said: "I have just had a meeting with my solicitors and I have instructed them to issue a writ against the *News of the World* concerning the story they published on Sunday and the totally false allegations they made against me."

The Secretary of State for Scotland has, as you are aware, asked the procurator fiscal to request that police investigate the matter. I requested that such an investigation be instigated and I welcome the move. It would be wrong of me to make any further statements until the

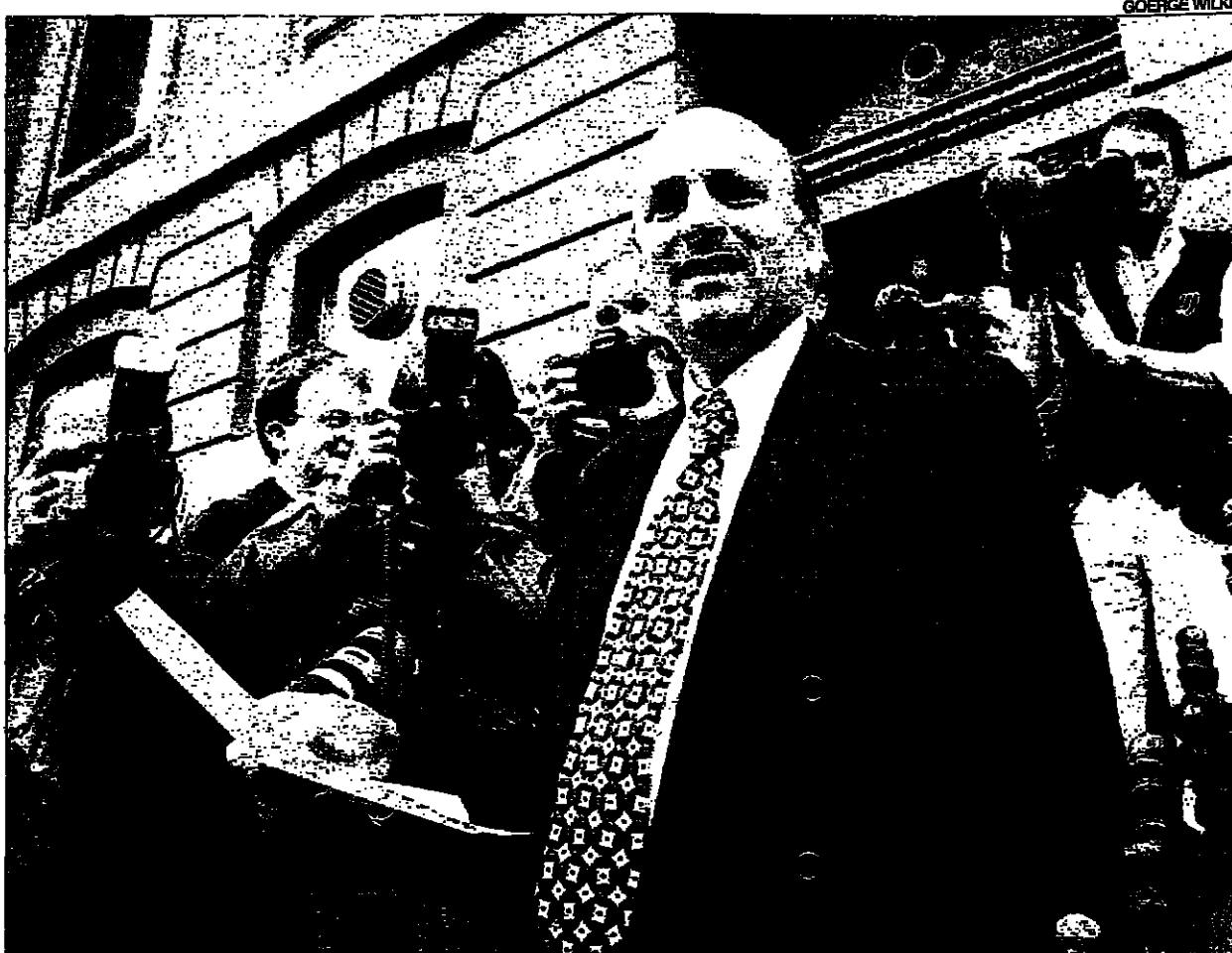
police investigation is completed.

A spokeswoman for Strathclyde Police said investigations into the bribery allegations had been requested by the Lord Advocate via the regional procurator fiscal for Glasgow and had now begun.

George Galloway, Labour MP for Glasgow Hillhead and a friend of Mr Sarwar, said he was sure the investigation would clear the MP's name.

He said: "No one can ever be completely convinced of what their friends tell them but I have known Mohammed Sarwar a long time and I have to say that what he told me yesterday and how he explained the situation had the ring of truth."

It struck me as inherently implausible that a man like Mohammed Sarwar would go along and hand out thousands of pounds to not canvass hard."



Mohammed Sarwar announcing his libel case to reporters outside his solicitor's office in Glasgow yesterday

## Hostilities flare again in Govan's political dirty war

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH

THERE is only one thing on which the ten candidates who stood for Glasgow Govan at the general election can agree — that the police inquiry into allegations of vote-rigging and bribery should be swiftly completed.

But given the long and bitter history of political infighting in the constituency, their hopes are unlikely to be met.

Govan, once famed for shipbuilding, now better known for the string-vest philosopher Rab C. Nesbitt, has been a Labour stronghold for decades. It also has the highest ethnic population of any of the Glasgow seats, at about 11 per cent, 9.6 per cent of whom are Asians from Pakistan.

Mohammed Sarwar won the seat at the election to become Britain's first Muslim MP with 14,216 votes, a majority of 2,914 over the Scottish Nationalists. The Tories polled 2,839 and the Liberal Democrats 1,945. The six other candidates polled less than 2,000 votes between them.

The seeds of the current dispute were sown in 1993 when the boundary commission abolished the Glasgow Central seat. The sitting MP, Mike Watson, decided to apply for the vacant nomination of Govan. He was challenged by two other candidates, Margaret Curran, a college lecturer, and Mohammed Sarwar, 44, is a successful businessman and former Labour councillor for Pollokshields, the well-heeled part of the constituency. The fight between Mr Watson and Mr Sarwar for the nomination was bitter



Badar claims Mr Sarwar gave him £5,000 bribe



Paton denies vendetta against Mr Sarwar

with allegations of intimidation and dirty tricks — which both denied. When Mr Watson won the ballot by one vote, Mr Sarwar protested. A rerun was ordered. Ms Curran pulled out and Mr Sarwar won by 82 votes. Mr Watson attempted a legal challenge which failed.

At the general election one of Mr Watson's strongest supporters, Peter Paton, decided to stand against Mr Sarwar as an independent Labour

candidate. Mr Paton, 43, describes himself as a member of the Labour Party for 24 years. But his party membership is lapsed; in the election he polled 325 votes. It was he who originally made the allegations of electoral malpractice to police some weeks ago. He is a vociferous opponent of Mr Sarwar but denies waging a vendetta against him.

Supporters of Mr Sarwar claim that Mr Paton has waged a dirty tricks campaign against him. They point to Mr Paton's involvement with Abdul Haq, Mr Haq, 60, was alleged to have tried to force his daughters into marriages with their cousins in Pakistan in 1996.

Mr Sarwar led a high-profile visit to Pakistan to rescue the girls. The girls and their mother later publicly expressed their gratitude to Mr Sarwar. Mr Haq is suing Mr Sarwar for £2 million alleging he split up the family. Mr Paton has acted as Mr Haq's press spokesman.

There are also concerns within the Sarwar camp of links between Mr Paton and Jamil Abbassi, who stood as an independent Conservative candidate in the election polling 221 votes. Campaign literature sent by both candidates came from the same fax in Mr Paton's home.

But it is a third independent candidate, Islam Badar, who is at the centre of the current allegations. A professional cricketer for Clydeside in the 1970s, Mr Badar became a businessman in the early 1980s but a string of business ventures failed. He polled only 319 votes at the election. Last week, Mr Sarwar told

the *Scotland on Sunday* newspaper that he would prove definitively that there was a dirty tricks campaign against him. He said Mr Badar would testify that another candidate, allegedly Mr Paton, was behind a smear campaign.

The newspaper insisted on sworn affidavits and while Mr Badar testified on tape that there had been a smear cam-

paign, he allegedly became extremely nervous about the affidavit, refusing to sign.

He later told the *News of the World* that Mr Sarwar gave him £5,000 last week. He claims he subsequently met Mr Sarwar and taped an incriminating conversation with him.

Mr Sarwar has denied the

claims and is taking legal action. The *News of the World* says it has the tapes and is sticking by its story.

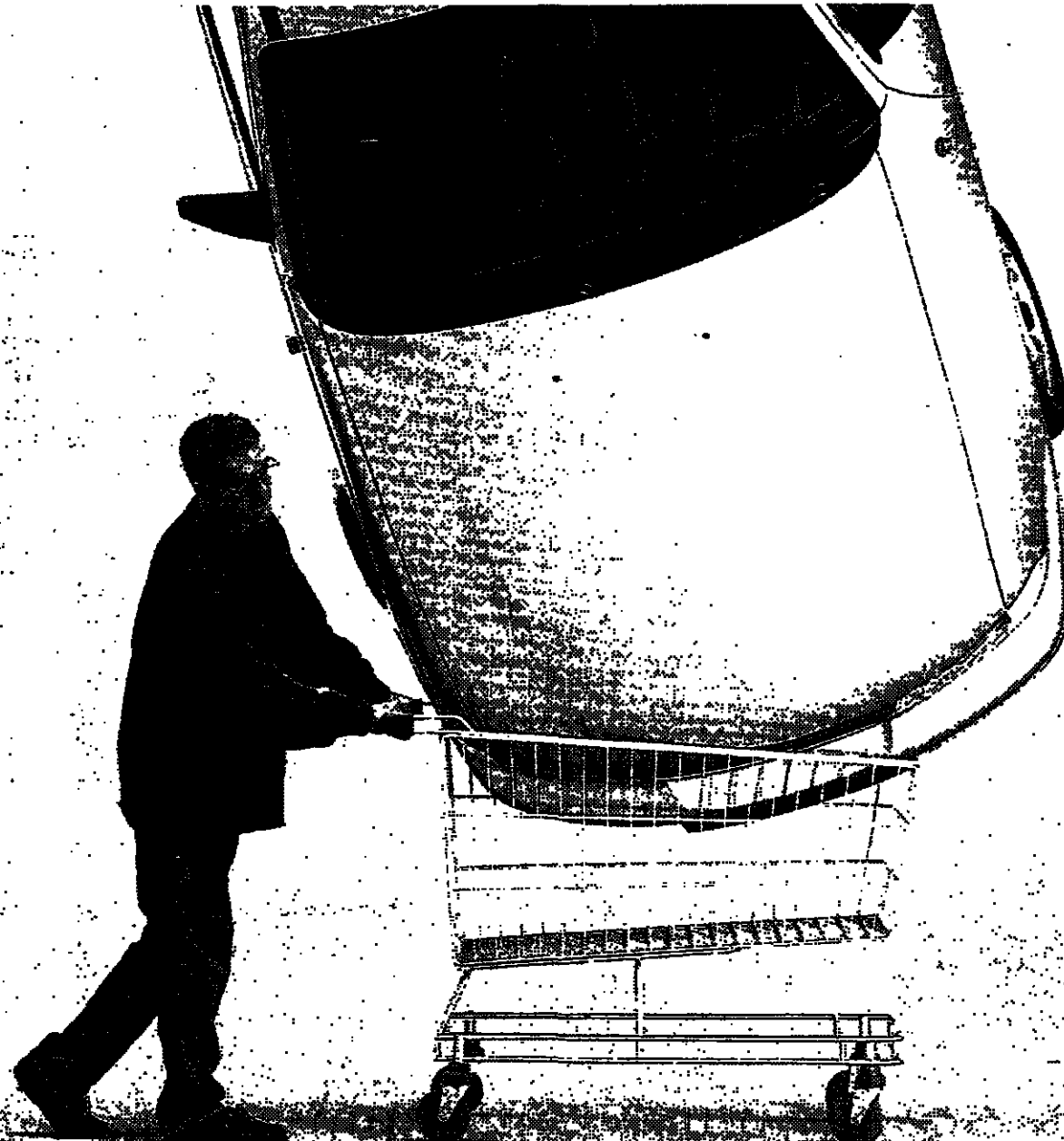
There is evidence of electoral malpractice in Govan. The police began an investigation some weeks ago after it was disclosed that "ghost" voters had been registered on the electoral role and some voters discovered that their votes had

been cast for them without their permission. There were also allegations of intimidation.

But Mr Sarwar says that from the start he instructed his team to fight the election with "honour and credibility".

Mr Sarwar's dirty tricks claims were given some credibility during the election campaign when a mysterious man

called Mohan Singh arrived in Glasgow offering £250,000 for evidence of sexual scandal involving Mr Sarwar. He left empty-handed claiming he was simply trying to make money by selling a story to the press but he admitted meeting Mr Paton and Mr Haq. Mr Paton has denied asking Mr Singh to help to discredit Mr Sarwar.



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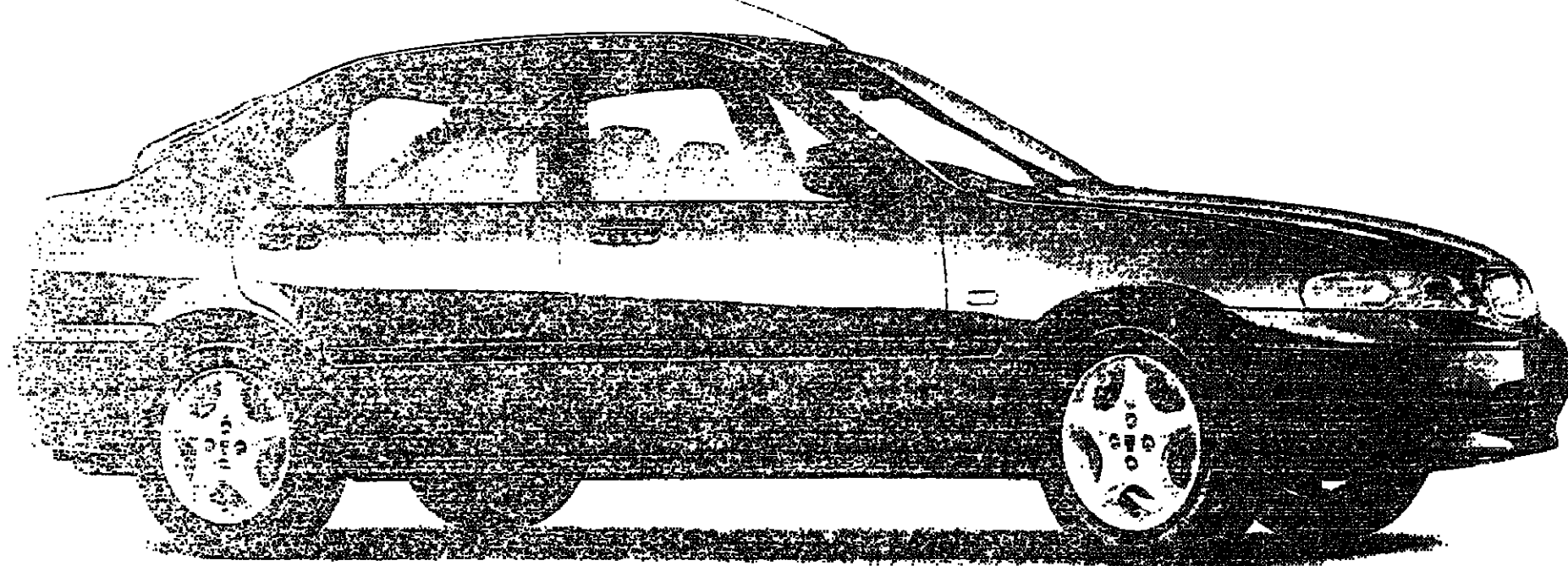
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## Giant turbines in area of natural beauty would 'damage case for crucial source of renewable energy'



The gigantic turbines, made in Germany, are already operating abroad, but would be the first of their size in Britain. Each stands 295ft tall at the blade tip — half as high again as the tallest in this country

# Green energy campaigners see red over wind farm

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY, COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

THE biggest wind farm in Europe, with 40 turbines half as high again as Nelson's Column, is planned for one of Britain's last great stretches of wild landscape.

Rookhope Common, in County Durham, is an area of North Pennine moorland designated as being of outstanding natural beauty, and the proposal by National Wind Power has outraged conservationists.

Five leading countryside groups have joined forces to call for tougher controls on the location of wind-energy plants. "Wind turbines now intrude into some of the most unspoilt landscapes in Britain and the damage is set to continue unless there are real changes to the way in which the industry is financed and regulated," they say in a statement issued today.

The signatories are the Ramblers' Association, the Council for National Parks, and the Council for the Protection of Rural England, together with its two sister bodies in Scotland and Wales. They have also written to Margaret Beckett, the President of the Board of Trade. It was the Department of Trade and Industry, over which Mrs Beckett now presides, which awarded contracts earlier this year to National Wind Power to sell electricity generated by the proposed Rookhope plant.

The farm would be the first major intrusion of wind turbines into a protected land-

scape. Conservationists say that the proposal underlines the growing threat to scenic countryside by a technology that will never make more than a tiny contribution to the production of cleaner energy.

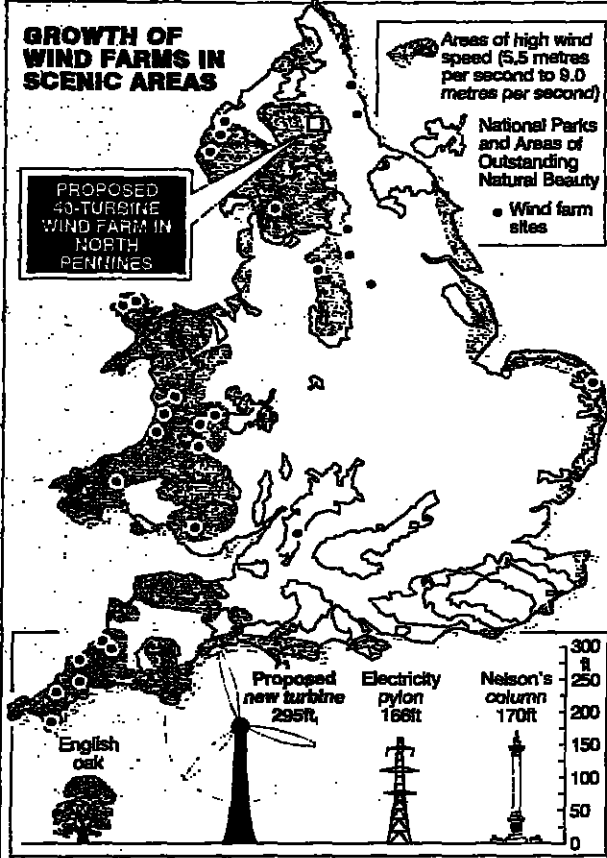
Even the keenest proponents of wind energy are appalled. Jonathan Porritt, former director of Friends of the Earth, has written to local people saying the Rookhope scheme would be seriously "damaging to the overall case for this crucial source of renewable energy".

National Wind Power is proposing to build two clusters of turbines at Rookhope, siting 15 on one ridge and 25 on a second, less than a mile to the north. Each machine would be capable of generating 1.5 megawatts (mw), a total capacity of up to 60mw.

Each turbine would consist of a tubular tower 197ft high carrying a rotor with three blades up to 98ft long, making a total height from base to blade tip of 295ft. This would be half as high again as the biggest, 600 kilowatt (kw), machines now operating in Britain.

Martin Marais, development manager for the project, said: "It is a fantastic site, very high and exposed with winds averaging up to 10 metres per second. We have looked at other sites but they are not viable because of insufficient wind speed."

The company is expected to submit a formal planning



application later this year and hopes to begin construction by 1999. Under the 1989 Electricity Act, the application would bypass the normal town and country planning procedures and be decided by the Department of Trade and Industry.

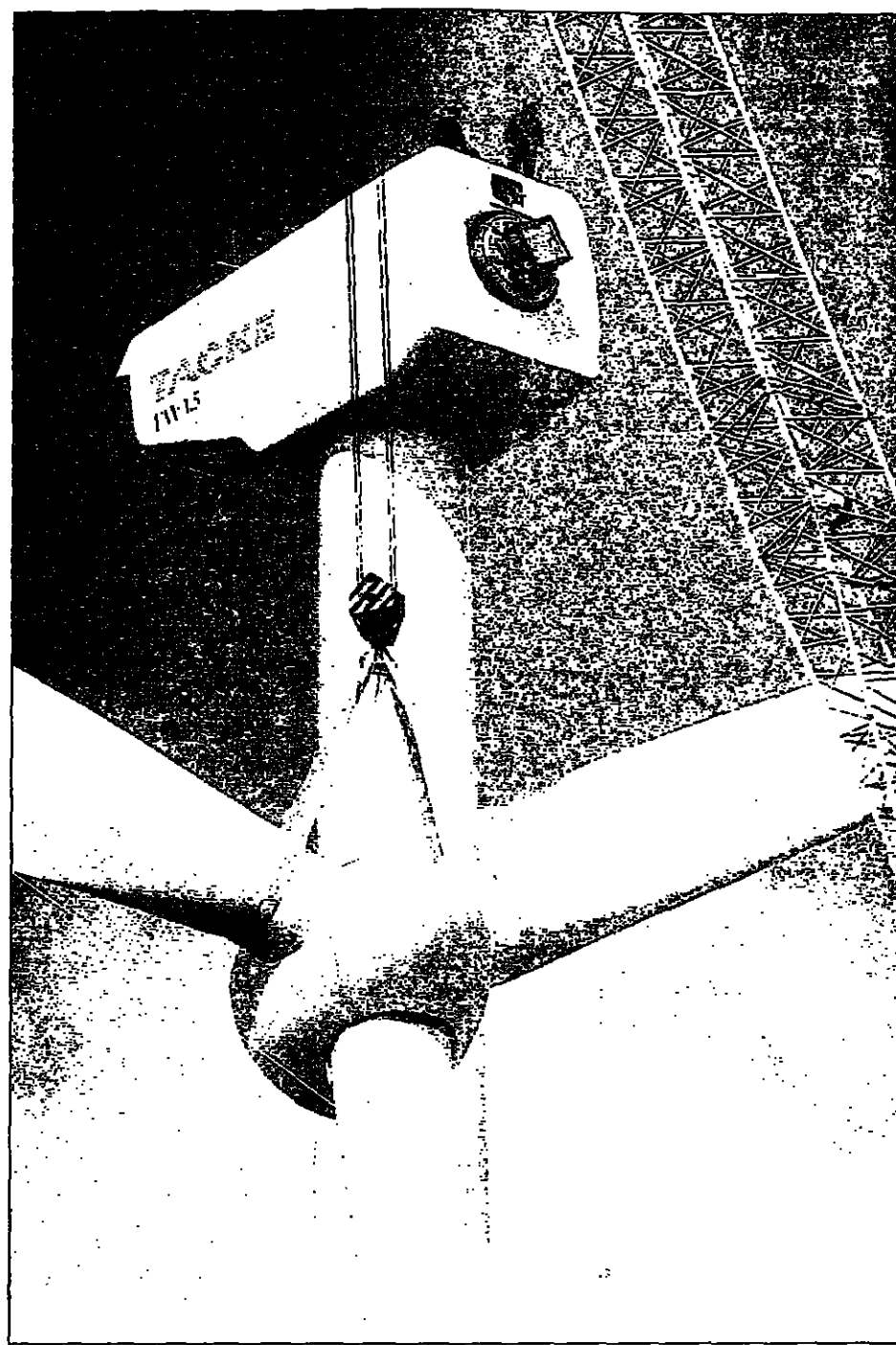
Mark Shaw, a resident of Rookhope and chairman of Preservation of Weardale, a group campaigning against the wind farm, said: "The decision on planning permission will in effect be removed from the local authority and given to the very government

department that awarded the contracts to sell electricity in the first place."

Wind power is an endlessly renewable source of energy, is safer than nuclear power and produces none of the polluting emissions associated with fossil fuels. However, farms are, by necessity, sited in some of the wildest and most beautiful landscapes in Britain, such as those in the North Pennines, the Lake District, the Yorkshire Dales, the Peak District, Wales, Cornwall and the Norfolk Broads. Even in these areas, wind supply is intermittent and unpredictable, making for low efficiency. Actual electricity output from Welsh wind farms in 1996 was no more than 23 per cent of capacity, according to the Government's Energy Technology Support Unit.

The Countryside Commission, the Government's adviser on land use, has calculated that the official target of deriving 10 per cent of electricity supply from wind power by 2025 would require up to 40,000 wind turbines of the size currently operating — there are 640 or so turbines now in use, mainly in Wales and Cornwall.

Even if all future turbines were to be of the gigantic size proposed for the North Pennines, some 10,000 would be needed. Even then, wind energy would reduce carbon dioxide emissions by only slightly over 3 per cent, as electricity generation is responsible for no more than 33 per cent of such pollution.



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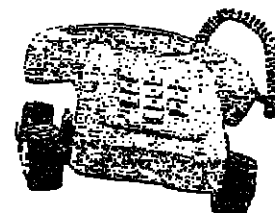
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Flinn: will reject general discharge

## B52 pilot prepared for court martial

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

KELLY FLINN, the first woman to pilot a B52 bomber, will take her chances with a court martial for adultery with a civilian if the US Air Force denies her plea for an honourable discharge.

She will refuse to settle for a general discharge, indicating an anomaly on her service record, if it is offered to her, she said on the 60 Minutes CBS television programme. Her voice breaking with emotion, Lieutenant Flinn, 26 and single, said her decision to resign was the toughest she had ever made after dedicating her life to the pursuit of her dream to fly for the air force.

She believed her decision was the best way to resolve the case for both sides. "I think this will give both myself and the air force the opportunity to come to some kind of reconciliation between the two of us, and a peaceful agreement."

The air force was in no mood to grab the olive branch, despite earlier indications that it would. Air force spokesman said that her prospects for an honourable discharge were slim. The colonel presiding at her court martial in North Dakota said it would open today on schedule, though an adjournment to consider her plea would seem prudent.

William Cohen, the Defence Secretary, confirmed earlier reports that it was time for the Pentagon to review relationships between men and women in the armed forces, a sure sign that the issue has become a political hot potato. There ought to be one standard and no selective enforcement, he said.

## Pentagon unveils plans for leaner war machine

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE Pentagon, announcing the most comprehensive review of United States defence since the end of the Cold War, last night reached a compromise to axe dozens of bases and thousands of personnel while maintaining America's ability to fight on two fronts at the same time.

William Cohen, the Defence Secretary, said his blueprint for the 21st century would strike a balance between the present and the future by retaining sufficient forces to lead the world but also investing in a new generation of advanced weapons to combat uncertain threats on the horizon.

He said forces would be trimmed primarily in the support structure of the "tail" and modestly in the combat power of the "tooth". Mr Cohen added: "The result will be a force capable of carrying out today's missions with acceptable strategic risk while allowing us to stabilise our investment programme."

"We preserved funding for the next generation of systems, such as information systems, strike systems, mobility forces and missile defence systems, that will ensure our domination of the battlespace in 2010 and beyond."

The quadrennial defence review requires a reduction in active US Army, Navy and Air Force personnel of 60,000. Reservists would be cut by 55,000 and the Pentagon would reduce its civilian staff by 30,000. The army, how-

ever, would retain ten combat-ready divisions while the navy is to keep 12 battle carrier and amphibious-ready groups.

Under the proposal, the surface fleet will be reduced by 12 to 116 and the navy will lose 23 attack submarines, as well as almost half the planned number of 1,000 F/A-18E/F aircraft.

The Defence Secretary said that arms procurement was running at about \$15 billion (\$9 billion) below requirement while the armed forces had 15 per cent more bases than were needed.

His review, which is certain to draw criticism from military officials and Republicans in Congress, requests two additional rounds of base closures.

Funds from the closures and from troop reductions would be used to boost certain weapons programmes such as the National Missile Defence System, which the Pentagon hopes will be ready for deployment by the millennium.

The review also focused on the danger to American forces of "asymmetric threats", ranging from nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons to terrorist attacks and information warfare.

Mr Cohen declared: "America begins the millennium as the sole superpower, the indispensable nation." He added: "The responsibilities are heavy and the choices difficult, but with these choices come enormous benefits and opportunities."

### WHERE THE AXE WILL FALL

THE main elements of the report sent to Congress are:

□ Two new rounds of domestic military base closures in 1999 and 2001 to save money for new high-tech arms.

□ Cut of 61,700 troops from 1.4 million-member active-duty armed forces. Air Force will lose 26,900, Navy 18,000, Army 15,000 and Marine Corps 1,800.

□ National Guard and Reserves cut by 54,000, including 45,000 from Army, and 60,800 civilians employed by services will go.

□ Current strategy of forward-deployed forces retained, including 100,000 in Europe and 100,000 in western Pacific, prepared to fight

and win two wars at once.

□ Some reductions, but no cancellations outlined, in Air Force F22 "stealth" fighters being developed by Lockheed Martin, Navy F/A-18E/F fighters built by McDonnell Douglas and Marine Corps V-22 tilt-rotor helicopters built by Boeing and Textron.

□ Long-range plans retained for expected \$170 billion joint strike fighter programme that Lockheed, Martin and Boeing are competing to build in the next century.

□ Twelve aircraft carriers kept in Navy; and the Air Force's present plans to increase B2 "stealth" bomber fleet to 21 aircraft does not change. (Reuters)



Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, with Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, in Washington yesterday

## Cook delivers warning on Bosnia

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

ROBIN COOK, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday delivered an unequivocal message to the Clinton Administration that if the US withdrew troops from Bosnia, British and other European countries would pull out too.

"I do not want anyone in the US to be under any misapprehension: the principle is one out, all out. We were there before US troops arrived, and it was an uncomfortable and lonely place to be," he said.

In a private meeting yesterday morning, William Cohen, the Defence Secretary, said he appreciated the dangers of an early withdrawal of troops, but it could be politically

impossible for President Clinton to keep them there. Mr Cook said it was too early to say whether the integration process under the Dayton agreement would have gone far enough to allow troops to leave next year.

Mr Cook, the first Cabinet minister of the new Labour Government to visit Washington, said the Administration wished Labour well and that he found "no substantial differences of opinion". He added that he had wanted to come to Washington, if only for a day.

"No signal that we want to have a strong working relationship with one of our oldest allies," On Hong Kong, Mr Cook

said: "We will be looking for US support to make sure that Britain's agreements with China are respected and that Hong Kong people retain civil liberties they have come to expect."

But he emphasised that whatever pressure the US puts on China, "we are anxious that the Most Favoured Nation agreement continues". He said that removing MFN trading privileges from China would damage the Hong Kong economy and hurt its people.

Mr Cook said that he planned to attend the handover from British to Chinese rule on June 30 and that

Tony Blair, the Prime Minister, might also attend.

Yesterday Mr Cook and the Clinton Administration issued a joint declaration on clearing up the unsolved mystery of Nazi gold. Mr Cook said that in working towards the new Europe, "we must also put right remaining injustices from the period when Europe was divided and at war."

Ahead of the planned visit to Washington by Marjorie Mowlem, the Northern Ireland Secretary, at the end of this week, Mr Cook reiterated the Government's insistence that Sinn Féin could not enter talks until an IRA ceasefire had been declared.

## Mongolian reformer ousted

BY JAMES PRINGLE

THE former Communist Party scored a decisive victory in Mongolia's presidential election, marking a setback for the vast, landlocked country's free-market economic reforms.

But the win was hardly a surprise given the stringency of economic "shock therapy" introduced by the Democratic Union Coalition, which won a surprise victory in parliamentary elections in June last year.

Natsagiin Bagabandi, the Soviet-educated leader of the formerly hardline Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party (MPRP), won almost 51 per

cent of the vote, with President Ochirbat, of the four-party DUC, receiving a stinging rebuff with just under 30 per cent. J. Gombojav, an ultranationalist, won 6.6 per cent.

Mr Bagabandi, a specialist in food technology, had pledged that he would try to slow down government reforms that had created widespread economic dislocation. He had promised to re-introduce a safety net for the elderly, poor and unemployed. Mr Bagabandi, who was praised even by Democratic Coalition MPs as a moderate,

wants to increase spending on social programmes, but Mr Ochirbat has said the Government just cannot afford to do so. This view is backed up by foreign envoys.

The extent to which some DUC ideologues, many influenced by the American Republican Party which has an office in Ulan Bator, tried to push free market reform, seemed to defy common sense, observers noted. "In under a year, the Democrats, by the excess of their zeal to reform, seemed to sow the seeds of their own destruction," one analyst said.



Bagabandi: victory for former Communists

## 'Angel' of flood town is named

New York: The anonymous donor who last month gave \$15 million (\$9 million) to rebuild the flood-ravaged town of Grand Forks, North Dakota, has been identified as Joan Kroc, the widow of the man who founded the McDonald's fast food chain (Tunku Varadarajan writes).

Mrs Kroc, who came to be known as "the Angel of Grand Forks", had also given \$2,000 to each family affected by the disaster, but had insisted on anonymity. Yesterday the Mayor presented her with a sweat-shirt that read: "I helped rebuild Grand Forks". Immensely rich, she gave away \$33 million to a number of charities last year alone.

## Historic scroll given to Met

New York: A Chinese silk scroll from the 10th century, an object so rare that its owner once hoped he could barter it for the release from China of his detained son, has been donated to the Metropolitan Museum of Art (Tunku Varadarajan writes). The museum will soon have the most comprehensive collection of Chinese paintings outside China.

## Air crash at Brazil show

Rio de Janeiro: Two small aircraft crashed in mid-air at an airport in Brazil's southern Santa-Catarina state, killing all 12 passengers as well as one woman on the ground, who died of a heart attack when one of the bodies fell on top of her, an airport spokesman said. The crash happened at celebrations marking the airport's 55th anniversary. (Reuters)

## 335 killed in army attacks

Colombo: Sri Lankan security forces renewed artillery attacks against suspected Tamil Tiger guerrilla positions in the island's north yesterday as the death toll in the latest army operation climbed to 335, officials said here. The Defence Ministry said that the separatist rebels had lost at least 250 of their fighters in the army's biggest-ever ground offensive. (AFP)

## Ice rescue for whalers

Anchorage: Helicopters off northern Alaska rescued 142 whale hunters after ice cracked and they drifted out to sea. The rescue took more than seven hours in fog. The whalers used hand-held global positioning systems to guide rescuers. "Every time they took a load of people, we were in a different place by the time they got back," said a stranded rescue team member. (AP)

## Eight arrests at horse cull

Wellington: Eight animal lovers were arrested for trespassing as a round-up aimed at culling 1,200 of wild horses began on army land 150 miles north of here. Most of the horses will be slaughtered for pet food. The herd, descended mainly from military horses, was until recently protected, but conservationists say the horses are destroying rare native plants. (AP)

## US envoy despairs for Middle East peace

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

MARTIN INDYK, America's influential Ambassador to Israel, admitted in remarks published yesterday that the 1993 peace deal between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation signed with flourish on the White House lawn had finally broken down.

Mr Indyk's verdict, the most pessimistic yet made by the Clinton Administration about the Middle East peace process, came as the Palestinian police were investigating the second mafia-style execution within a fortnight of a Palestinian suspected of selling land to Jews.

The killing of Haniyeh Abu-Sara, a land dealer, shot several times in the head and

dumped in the self-rule Palestinian city of Ramallah, came after the similar murder of Farid Bashihi, 70, on May 9. Both killings followed a Palestinian Authority edict that selling land to Jews was a capital offence.

"This is a horrible development," Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, told a Knesset committee. "I think it is ghastly, monstrous to issue a law that says that anyone who sells land to Jews should be executed."

Mr Netanyahu added: "And what is worse is that not only are these laws promulgated, they appear to be followed through, and the recent murder of two innocent people for the sale of land, at the best

of the Palestinian Authority, is absolutely unacceptable."

Earlier, Mr Indyk said of the 1993 peace deal initially negotiated in Norway, "The Oslo package has crumbled and there are no quick fixes possible. The core bargain of Oslo has broken down — Israel was promised security and the Palestinians were promised self-government."

In a separate reflection of American despair with the reluctance of either side to make the necessary gestures to rebuild trust, Samuel Berger, the US National Security Adviser, brushed off President Arafat's dramatic appeal to President Clinton to intervene personally to rescue the peace accord. "Presidential involvement is happening every day," Mr Berger said.

The new spate of executions of Arab land dealers has further soured a bad atmosphere and spread panic among many Palestinian land agents who in the past have worked with the Israelis.

A senior Israeli police source said: "Palestinian merchants are turning to us and asking protection from murder."

Mr Bashihi was found dead in Ramallah after being lured from an hotel in Israeli-annexed East Jerusalem by a female Palestinian security agent in an operation described by one security source as a "classic honey trap". His skull was crushed, his hands tied behind his back

and his mouth sealed with plastic tape.

Because Ikrama Sabri, the chief Muslim cleric in Jerusalem, declared Mr Bashihi an infidel and barred his family from burying him in any Muslim cemetery in Jerusalem, it took the family days to find a place to conduct the funeral. It eventually took place at a secret location on Sunday, not far from members of the local press about the exact spot.

Boat attacked: Israel yesterday said it destroyed a Lebanese fishing boat with a suicide bomber intending to run an Israeli ship. Amal, the Lebanese group, claimed responsibility for the failed attack.

## Octogenarian disputes Florida swim record

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

AN INDIGNANT American man, 94, has disputed the record claimed by Susie Maroney, the Australian long-distance swimmer, who was hailed last week as the first person to swim unassisted across the Straits of Florida, which separate Cuba and the mainland America.

Walter Pomsch, who lives in Grove City, Ohio, has declared: "She's a pretty good swimmer, but she's not the first to make that swim. I was."

The octogenarian, who was paralysed seven years ago and is now confined to a wheelchair, asserts that he made the crossing in 1978, when he was 63. His timing, 34 hours and 15 minutes, compares unfavourably with

that of Miss Maroney, who took only 24 hours and 20 minutes. But Mr Pomsch took a longer route — 138 miles to her 113 — and says that he had unfavourable currents.

Mr Pomsch's claim has always been dogged by controversy, as he lacked an independent observer to verify his record. Like Miss Maroney, he swam in a shark-proof metal cage that was dragged by a boat ahead of him. But he was accompanied only by the boat's captain, a friend and his wife.

The Guinness Book of Records did, nonetheless, credit him with the Florida Straits swim in its American editions from 1979 to 1991, but dropped him thereafter.

## British bomb expert in Oklahoma trial

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

LINDA JONES, a British forensic science expert, was set to take centre stage in the trial of Timothy McVeigh as the prosecution case against the chief suspect in the Oklahoma City bombing entered its final phase yesterday.

Ms Jones, principal forensic investigator at the Ministry of Defence explosives laboratory at Fort Halstead in Kent, is seen as a pivotal independent witness against Mr McVeigh, 29, who is alleged to have detonated the bomb that killed 168 adults and children on April 19, 1995.

Prosecutors hope that Ms Jones's testimony will shore up evidence from the FBI crime laboratory, which last month was accused of sloppy procedures and biased conclusions in its evaluation of the explosion at the Alfred P. Murrah Building.

Ms Jones is a veteran of countless IRA bomb investigations and was last year awarded the OBE for her 23 years of service at the MoD. She has examined fragments from the 4,000lb ammonium nitrate bomb and is expected during her testimony in Denver this week to counter criticism of the laboratory and attempt to establish explosives residue and other evidence linking Mr McVeigh to the bombing.

But Stephen Jones, the chief defence lawyer, has said that the laboratory had contaminated, abused and manipulated the evidence against his client and "engaged in forensic prostitution".

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# Kabila 'to enter Kinshasa today without bloodshed', says Mandela

By JAN RAATH IN HARARE  
AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

**LAURENT KABILA**, the victorious Zairean rebel leader, is to enter Kinshasa today, President Mandela of South Africa said yesterday, and gave an assurance that the self-proclaimed head of state would do so peacefully.

"It seems everything is going according to plan," Mr Mandela said after an hour's meeting with President Mugabe in the Zimbabwean capital where he is on a state visit. "As far as he is concerned, he will enter Kinshasa without bloodshed. His troops have been acknowledged, even by his enemies, as being disciplined, and they have been courteous," Mr Mandela said. He added that Mr Kabila would address the nation at 9pm local time tomorrow.

Mr Mandela, whose Government was the first to recognise the Alliance of Democratic Forces for Congo-Zaire after its troops seized Kinshasa on Saturday, also gave Mr Kabila a powerful personal endorsement. In an address to the Zimbabwean parliament, he urged MPs to reject "the adverse publicity he is getting from certain quarters, for obvious reasons".

Mr Mandela, who was kept waiting by Mr Kabila during the failed peace talks with the deposed President Mobutu in the past fortnight, said he was speaking "as one who has been involved in negotiations in that country". He said: "I want to assure you that President Kabila is handling the question of assuming power in that country, uniting it and addressing the problems of the poor in an excellent manner. He has lived up to the expectations of those who are patriotic enough to be guided by facts and not fiction."

The ailing Mr Mobutu was reported to be resting in Togo at the residence of his old friend, Gnassingbe Eyadema, the West African state's dictator. He fled there after rebels seized his jungle palace in northern Zaire.

His eldest son and 109 members of his family were said to be stuck across the river from Kinshasa. In Brazzaville, Congo, because a flight crew supposed to fly them onwards refused to have anything more to do with the Mobutuses.

Government officials in Togo, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Mr Mobutu would not stay in the country for more than a few days. They did not yet know his ultimate destination. Togo state television earlier said that Mr Mobutu had only briefly stopped in the country on his way to Rabat, the Moroccan capital. It reported that he had slipped out of his home village of Gbadolite late on Saturday night in a cargo plane just ahead of Mr Kabila's troops, and flew to Togo.

The television report said the ousted leader was awakened by gunfire late on Saturday night and was afraid that rebel troops had entered his village and were closing in on his palace. The rebels fired on the departing plane.

## Rebel tells of 800-mile march to freedom in gum boots

DAVID ORR IN KINSHASA

**AS SOLDIERS** of the defeated Zairean Armed Forces surrendered their weapons outside a military barracks in Kinshasa yesterday, one of the victors told of his role in the campaign to overthrow President Mobutu.

Amisi Chalondawa was one of a number of fighters who looked on as men in civilian clothes came forward in single file and dumped their arms on a pile containing thousands of Kalashnikov rifles.

"I killed some of the enemy," he said. "And some of my comrades died in the fighting. One lost an arm in a grenade blast and another disappeared in the jungle. But we fought to free the country, we did it for our families and the whole population."

Mr Chalondawa, 22, was among the advance units of the rebel alliance which last Saturday captured the capital of Zaire (since renamed the Democratic Republic of Congo). His story gives a rare insight into the insurgency of Laurent Kabila, the rebel leader who has just declared himself President of Africa's third-largest nation. It also affords a glimpse of the personal motivation of a man who took part in the epic struggle to overthrow one of the world's most reviled dictators.

"I first heard of Kabila from my boss at the petrol station

where I worked in Rutshuru," Mr Chalondawa said. "He joined the [rebel] alliance and he told me all about him. Soon after Rutshuru was liberated last September I signed up."

Mr Chalondawa is the youngest of seven children who were born and raised in eastern Zaire. His father's job in the civil service obliged the Amisi family to move from town to town until finally they settled in Rutshuru on the Ugandan border. In his late teens Mr Chalondawa went to nearby Goma to study mechanical engineering, but lack of funds forced him to abandon the course.

"The fees were \$25 (now about £15) a term," he says. "My father's income was only \$1 a month. Sometimes he had to go and ask for his pay and when he did that he would be beaten up by the army. The way they treated him made me very angry. He supplemented his salary by growing and selling vegetables but it still wasn't enough. He supported my decision to join the alliance. He told him that I could be independent that way."

The insurgency of the Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo-Zaire began as a localised 'self-defence' campaign by the Banyamulenge, a community of ethnic Tutsis, in eastern Zaire. Mr Chalondawa belongs to the Rega tribe but



A young soldier of Laurent Kabila's victorious rebels examines a pile of guns confiscated from the headquarters of President Mobutu's elite guard in Kinshasa yesterday

identified with the goals which the struggle quickly embraced: the overthrow of President Mobutu and the destruction of his corrupt regime. Supported by his regional allies, Mr Kabila was able to give his uprising the impetus of a multi-ethnic national movement. Mr Chalondawa received two months' training in weaponry, tactics and self-defence in the forest west of Rutshuru. He says his military instructors were Rwandans, though other groups were trained by Ugandans, Tanzanians and Angolans. By November Mr Chalondawa was considered ready for the front and was dispatched to his birthplace,

Butembo, 25 miles from the Ugandan border. Over the next six months he covered hundreds of miles, sometimes by aircraft but more often by foot. During that time he took part in a number of battles but says that mostly the Zairean troops ran away.

He estimates he walked nearly 800 miles through jungle and bush in his one pair of rubber boots before arriving in Kinshasa.

"Many of our men died on the way," he says. "They just got exhausted and died. There was a lot of malaria and dysentery. Sometimes we'd go for four days with nothing but a few biscuits to eat."

Mr Chalondawa has not yet been paid and says he has no idea when he will receive his first salary. He intends to stay in the army.

"I'm happy to be here in Kinshasa," he says, gazing around at the big houses and high-rise buildings. "I would have preferred if Mobutu had not fled so we could have arrested and punished him. But the main thing is he's gone."

## New leaders take Africa's destiny into their own hands

The victorious Laurent Kabila joins a network of men determined to end Central Africa's chaos, writes Sam Kiley

FRANCE'S once strong influence in Africa has waned dramatically, with its ally, Mobutu Sese Seko, deposed and on the run.

However, if Washington and London believe their African stars are rising, they may be mistaken. For the first time in a century, African leaders are starting to take charge of the destiny of the continent.

The fall of Zaire to the Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo-Zaire completes a network of friends and allies stretching from Angola to Eritrea who are expected to reshape the continent in an image of their own, and scrub out the colonial map of Africa drawn up at Bismarck's Berlin conference of European powers in 1884.



Museveni ready to take on Savimbi's forces



Kagame helped to drive out Uganda rebels



Garang: won backing for Sudan revolt

By dint of his victory in Kinshasa, Laurent Kabila has joined a growing firmament of African leaders disinclined to take orders from outside powers. Civil war, mayhem and famine last year provoked Washington to call on Africa's leaders to come up with African solutions to their problems. The State Department even offered to pay for a standing army of African peacekeepers who could intervene to prevent the horrific collapse of state power, as seen in Liberia and Somalia or state-sponsored genocide as in

Rwanda. Led by President Museveni of Uganda, a clique of African leaders, all men of well-known military prowess who in most cases fought their way into office, made the peacekeeping idea redundant. They have embarked on an ambitious offensive to wipe

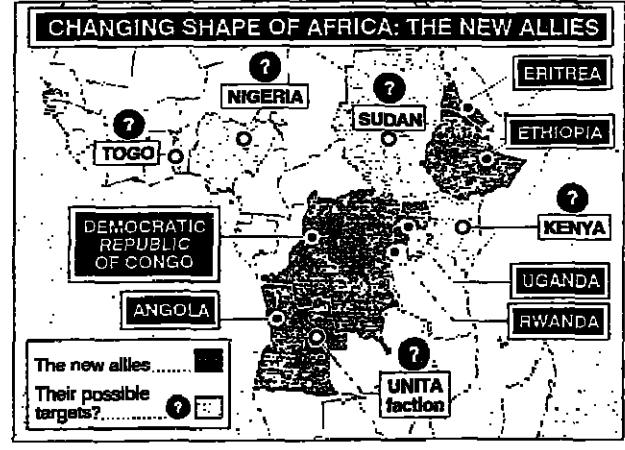
out the chaos of Central Africa. In November last year Washington gave diplomatic support to the mainly Tutsi rebellion in eastern Zaire which grew into a revolution and toppled Mr Mobutu last weekend. As a result French officials saw an "Anglophone conspiracy" behind Mr Kabila's movement in which Britain supplied the know-how of the imperial era, and Americans the money and military training necessary for the Tutsis to storm across Zaire in only seven months.

There may be some truth in the conspiracy theory. Among the beneficiaries of Zaire's change of regime have been George Bush, who along with former Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, is a member of the advisory board of Toronto-based Barrick Gold, which bought a gold concession for 80,000 square kilometres in northeast Zaire from the then rebels. Few, if any, French companies have been given access to Zaire's mineral rights.

But the conspiracy is deeper and more subtle. Mr Museveni's close friend and former comrade in arms, is Major General Paul Kagame, Rwanda's Vice-President and Minister of Defence. Clearing Rwandan Hutu extremists and Ugandan rebel groups from camps inside Zaire, while backing Mr Kabila's rebellion, made sense to the Central African leaders.

Further north, Uganda continues to suffer bombing raids from Sudan's Islamic Government because of Mr Museveni's support for John Garang, south Sudan's rebel leader fighting for autonomy.

Eritrea's Issias Aferwerki and Ethiopia's Meles Zenawi, former comrades in the Ethiopian civil war and also close friends of the Ugandan President, sent troops into Sudan to drive away an Islamic threat.



Now, with Mr Mobutu gone and Mr Kabila the new President of the Democratic Republic of Congo (the name Zaire was known by before Mr Mobutu came to power) the stage is set for another showdown with what Mr Museveni and his clique see as a destabilising rebel group in Africa: Jonas Savimbi's Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita). Angolan troops fought alongside Mr Kabila's men in Zaire, while Unita troops fought a last stand for Mr Mobutu. President Santos of Angola is unlikely to resist the temptation to attack Unita's bases in the north and west of his country now that Mr Mobutu, a long-standing Unita ally, has gone. The "new African" leaders have said publicly that the borders drawn up at Bismarck's conference may be redrawn. In Rwanda President Bizimungu, a Hutu, suggested adding North and South Kivu to Rwanda.

"What's worrying us is we don't know where, or when, these men are going to stop. Will they try to take on every bad guy on the continent? Is Sani Abacha [Nigeria's military ruler] next? How comfortable is Mr [Daniel arap] Moi in Kenya? Is he on their hit list?", asked one Western ambassador in Kinshasa last night.

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## Korea scandal traps another official as President's clean crusade crumbles



Kim Young Sam: his presidency is crippled

By ROBERT WHYMANT

SOUTH Korean prosecutors yesterday arrested a former top government security official on bribery charges in a scandal that has ensnared a son of President Kim Young Sam and diminished presidential credibility.

Kim Ki Sup, a former deputy director of the Agency for National Security Planning, is suspected of collecting \$169,000 (£103,000) in exchange for helping a businessman to win a government licence for a cable television station.

The former security official was a close associate of Kim Hyun

Chul, the President's second son, who is also accused taking kickbacks from the businessman. Kim Hyun Chul, 37, was arrested last Saturday on charges of pocketing \$3.6 million in bribes and evading \$1.5 million in taxes. Prosecutors say they plan to question the two men, now being held in the same prison in Seoul, about \$16.3 million in more than 100 bank accounts. Investigators are also looking into allegations made by opposition parties that Kim Ki Sup leaked sensitive government information to his friend in the presidential palace.

Kim junior never held a govern-

ment post, but was known to be President Kim's most trusted adviser. His meddling in state affairs earned him the scornful title of "little President". Kim Ki Sup resigned from the powerful spy agency in March after questions about his relationship with the President's son.

President Kim is not directly implicated in the bribery scandal, but it deals yet another blow to his credibility as a crusader against corruption. His presidency is already crippled by a corruption scandal in which 11 senior businessmen and politicians are charged with giving or taking

bribes in exchange for arranging bank loans to Hanbo Steel Industry Company. The company collapsed in January with debts of \$5.6 billion, exposing corruption by senior government officials.

South Korea has essentially had to telescope 100 years of development into a tenth of that time. The system of *chaebol*, or large conglomerates, being given carte blanche to develop the country's industries after the Korean War under the mantra of catching up with Japan led to close relationships between government and industry that do not exist in developed economies. This hot-

house system of developing the economy was destined to breed corruption.

Yesterday prosecutors demanded long prison terms for the "immoral" defendants, who include a former Cabinet minister and three top aides to President Kim. The prosecution sought a 20-year prison sentence for Chung Tae-soo, 74, the founder of the Hanbo Group, who allegedly scattered bribes among bankers and politicians to keep loans rolling in.

This is a large-scale corruption case perpetrated by a collaboration of immoral politicians, bankers and corporate executives," Park

San Gil, the prosecutor, told a court in Seoul. "It has even damaged the nation's reputation."

The Hanbo scandal, now compounded by the arrest of his son, has severely wounded President Kim, who swept to power four years ago under the banner of clean government. It has reduced him to a caretaker President until the election in December. By law, Mr Kim cannot run for a second term.

□ Opposition choice: Kim Dae-jung, the opposition leader, was chosen by his party to fight the presidential election. It will be Mr Kim's fourth try. (Reuters)

## Defecting general boosts Taliban's chances of victory

By CHRISTOPHER THOMAS, SOUTH ASIA CORRESPONDENT

GENERAL Abdul Rashid Dostum, leader of northern Afghanistan and the last bulwark against the fundamentalist Taliban Islamic militia, faced a potentially disastrous mutiny by one of his key commanders last night. It is the first crack in the military alliance backed by Russia and Iran, that controls a third of the country.

General Abdul Malik, the alliance's spokesman on foreign affairs, announced that he had defected to Taliban for the sake of "national unity". Echoing Taliban's tirades, he called General Dostum a "bad Muslim" and the main obstacle to peace in Afghanistan. This is the most serious blow to the alliance, which includes Burhanuddin Rabbani, the former President, since its formation seven months ago.

General Malik said the alliance's forces had been disarmed in his own province of Faryab. He claimed to have the support of General Dostum's "inner circle". If true, the gates of northern Afghanistan could soon swing open for the final Taliban advance.

News of the split will alarm Central Asian states, Russia, Iran and India, which all have their reasons for worrying about Taliban's consolidation

in Afghanistan. The militia captured two-thirds of the country more by bribing than fighting, proof that it has substantial outside resources. Private Saudi money is probably one source of cash. There is also substantial income from opium, which provides most of the heroin used in Europe.

This is a dangerous time for

**6 It is the first crack in the military alliance that is backed by the Russians and Iran**

General Dostum. The snow has melted in the mountain passes that have protected him all winter from Taliban's forces, and a military push against him could be imminent. Central Asian states have sealed their borders, fearing that large numbers of people will seek refuge.

Mazar-i-Sharif, which appeared to be calm last night as news of the revolt came

through, is a mud-brick town where alcohol is openly on sale. General Dostum, who drives a bullet-proof black Cadillac imported from Germany, is fond of Scotch. Women are allowed to work and do not have to wear the veil. Gambling is also allowed. Such practices lay behind Taliban's repeated assertion that General Dostum is a bad Muslim.

He is also despised by many Afghans because he was a Communist commander in the former Russian-backed regime of Muhammad Najibullah, who was tortured and murdered by Taliban late last year. Najibullah was left publicly hanging by the neck for two days in Kabul, and Taliban leaders have said that General Dostum faces a similar fate if caught.

Uzbekistan would clearly offer sanctuary if his regime were toppled, as would Tajikistan, both of which have supplied military assistance. Russia has given him heavy armoury and technical support, including the repairing of launchers for his Scud long-range missiles, which are all but useless in the kind of war he faces with Taliban.

The Afghan Islamic Press Agency in Islamabad reported that General Malik's fighters had arrested several of General Dostum's commanders. General Dostum, who lives with his wife and children outside Mazar-i-Sharif, is popular among Uzbeks and Tajiks in his fiefdom, but he cannot rely on the loyalty of Pashtuns, who are a substantial minority in the north.

The north is effectively a different country. Mazar-i-Sharif has electricity, the shops are full of a variety of goods and there is a local economy of sorts, although the currency has had to be propped up by dollars sent by Iran to prevent its collapse.



Villagers wait for family members to return from fishing off Chittagong in the cyclone-swept Bay of Bengal yesterday

## Thousands flee Bangladesh cyclone

By CHRISTOPHER THOMAS

A CYCLONE tore through Bangladesh last night, leaving death and devastation over a wide area. It formed in the Bay of Bengal and moved into the city of Cox's Bazaar, knocking out telephone communications. Winds reached 150mph, tossing shrimpers over large distances.

As many as 300,000 people were evacuated before the storm hit. There are insufficient cyclone shelters for everybody and poor people are often reluctant to heed warnings issued by siren and over the radio for fear of losing their land and possessions to squatters. Some of the world's

most devastating natural disasters have been caused by cyclones in Bangladesh.

The city of Chittagong also lost its telephone links, making it impossible for the authorities to assess accurately the scale of the disaster or to estimate the number of deaths and injuries. A tidal surge submerged the island of St Martin and adjacent islands, sweeping away trees and electricity poles.

Wind speeds increased as the storm hit the coast, a constantly changing delta that attracts the land-hungry poor despite the annual danger of cyclones. A disaster alert was given over much of the country as the cyclone neared the

coast. Thousands of residents huddled in their homes by oil lamps and candles after electricity supplies were knocked out, awaiting the main deluge.

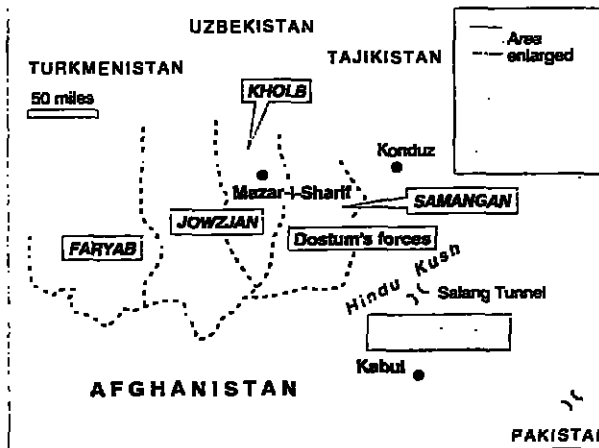
The runway at Chittagong airport was submerged beneath sea water, and any serious damage to it will hamper relief efforts. Tidal surges flooded a vast area of the south. Telephone communications failed as the storm progressed, giving an indication of its severity.

A chronic lack of cyclone shelters, which are built out of thick concrete, regularly forces people to abandon their homes or brave deadly storms. Bangladesh has built large numbers of additional

shelters in recent years but it may never be able to construct enough for everybody, given the rapid increases in population.

The entire administration of southeastern Bangladesh, the area that seems to have taken the worst battering, was on red alert. Army and navy personnel joined civilian workers in rescue operations.

Sheikh Hasina Wajed, the Prime Minister, postponed a trip overseas because of the disaster. In 1991 an estimated 139,000 people were killed in a cyclone that devastated the southeastern coast, ranking it one of the worst natural disasters on record in the world.



## Frenchman jumps at chance to sell Albanian frogs

From TOM WALKER

IN DURRES

AMONG the first exports to emerge from Albania's economic gloom are live frogs — up to three tons a day, destined for the dinner tables of France.

The Albafrog company is the brainchild of Julien Roche, a French entrepreneur, and is unlikely to please the local authorities. Its corporate logo depicts a frog leaning on a concrete bunker while holding a Kalashnikov assault rifle. A French tricolour is wrapped around its chest.

Over the past chaotic months M Roche, whose other business interests include mobile telephones and

a private airline, has been holding secret negotiations with the legions of frog catchers making a living from the nation's vast coastal marshlands. He said he and his partners have invested more than £150,000 in Albafrog.

The French love affair with *les grenouilles albanaises* dates back more than 30 years, to the days when a mysterious "Monsieur Arthus" would tour the Albanian marshes with his refrigerated lorry. Since 1991 an Albanian family in the southern port of Vlore has exported up to 50 tons of frogs a year, but this year, with Vlore firmly in rebel hands, its collecting lorries are unlikely to make the hazardous trip north into territo-

ries not just infested with frogs but also President Berisha's loyalists.

"It's a beautiful market," said M Roche in his seafaring villa adjacent to the President's summer residence. "The limits are determined not by demand but how much you can produce."

With commercial frog-hunting banned in France since 1976, gourmets have often had to endure frozen frogs from Turkey, China and Egypt. The quality of Albania's frogs was legendary, but the country's isolation precluded their export. "They have the best taste," M Roche said. "All that was needed was some organisation."

May is the start of the frog season in Albania, and M Roche's

French business partner, Ludovic L'Aventure, has organised an *assemblée générale* of northern frog collectors in the port of Lezha. Among them will be Mark Cakaj, who has been the middle man in all frog negotiations in the village of Thumana for the past 23 years.

Mr Cakaj showed off his plastic hunting apron and lit his ferocious German petrol lamp, the glare of which stuns into submission the millions of frogs in the nearby swamp drainage channels.

"I don't know about these French people," he said warily. "You have to know what you're about in this game, and I'd prefer to deal with Albanians. But I've brought five children up through

frogs and I can't complain." Mr Cakaj takes frogs from up to 50 local people, whom he pays the equivalent of about 60p per kilogram. Only frogs weighing between 30 and 90 grams are selected, and on a good night up to 500kg are collected.

The fact that M Roche has started a frog business is unlikely to improve his relations with President Berisha: two years ago, M Roche received a trial load of 30kg of frogs from Vlore, and was suitably impressed by the few he ate. The rest he liberated in his garden, only to find that they had hopped across the road and invaded the wedding reception of his important neighbour's daughter.



Mark Cakaj: wary about new partners in amphibian trade

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# Le Pen and greens pose poll threat to Left and Right

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

THE final week of campaigning in the French parliamentary elections has begun, with the pollsters forced into silence and parties buckling down to the complex mathematical conundrum that is the French electoral system.

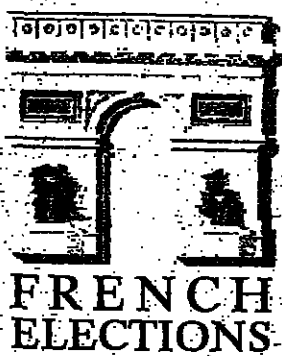
In the first round of the election next Sunday, voters will cast their initial ballots for the 6,242 candidates standing for 577 parliamentary seats.

A candidate who attracts more than 50 per cent of the vote in the first round is automatically elected. Contenders who gain at least 12.5 per cent of registered votes can then go through to the second round a week later on June 1. If only one or, conceivably, none of the candidates passes the 12.5 per cent threshold, then the two with the highest scores compete in the second-round run-off.

Few candidates are elected in the first round — the Centre-Right had just 80 out-right winners in the last election, before a massive landslide-victory in the final poll — but the system winnows out the field and provides a key indicator of how the competing parties are squaring up.

The pattern of the dispersed first-round vote is also an intriguing glimpse into the national political mood, since many voters use the opportunity to vote for fringe parties or register a protest vote, saving their "important" vote for those candidates remaining in the second round.

The serious jockeying and



regrouping will take place next week, between the first and second rounds, when the mosaic comes into sharper focus. In many cases this will translate into a straight battle between the two strongest contenders from the Right and Left, with unsuccessful candidates dropping out and putting their support behind the front-runner on their side of the political divide.

The Gaullist RPR party and the centre-right UDF have agreed to put up joint candidates on a coalition platform in all but a handful of constituencies; the Socialist and Communist parties, welded together in an uncomfortable electoral alliance, will field separate candidates in the first round and then combine forces in the second.

For the centre-right coalition, one of the most unpredictable elements in the equation is the challenge from the far-right National Front. The party, led by Jean-Marie Le Pen, has said its troops will fight on in the second round

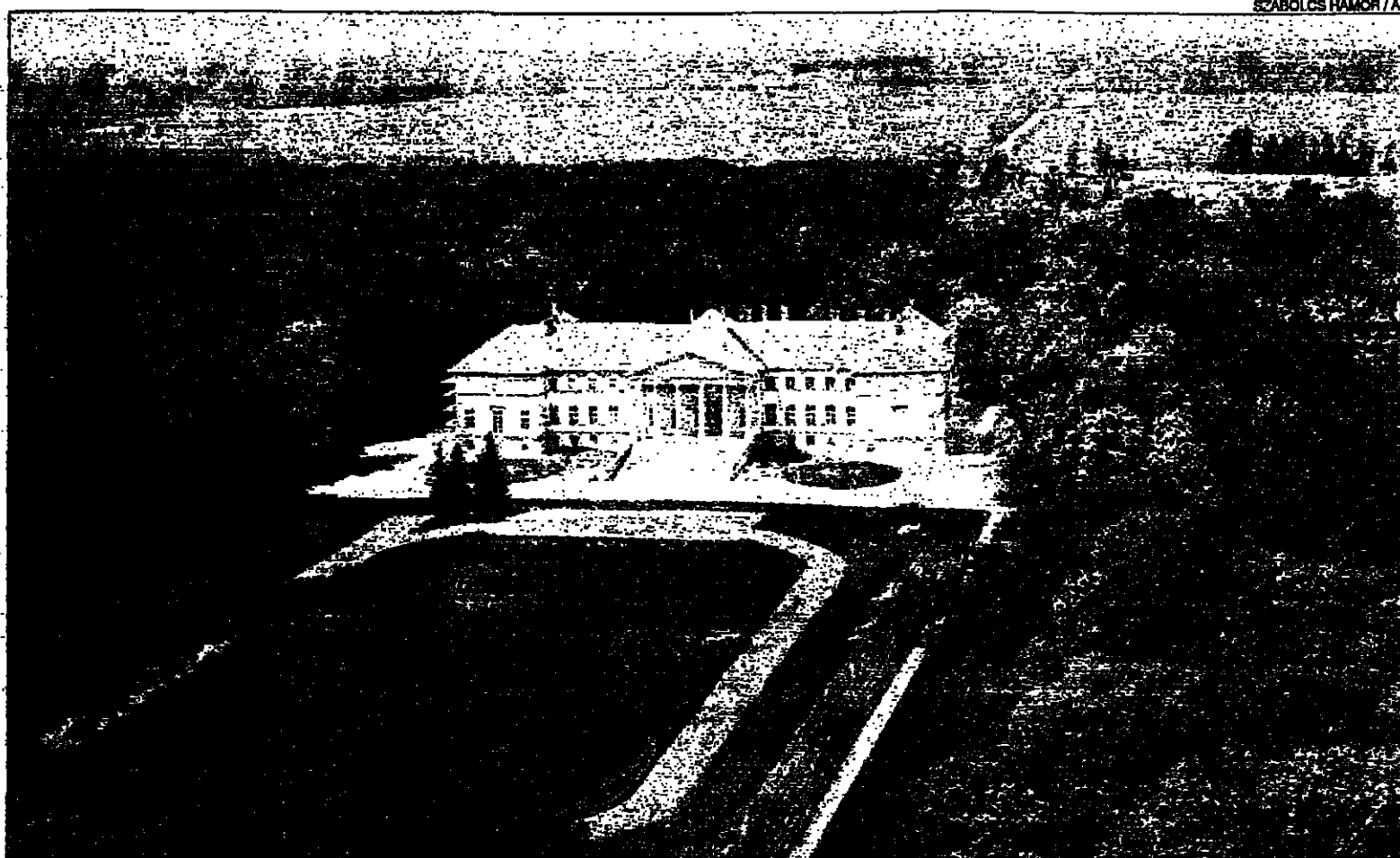
wherever it qualifies, which could mean a Front candidate in the run-off for as many as 150 seats. Few, if any, far-right candidates will be elected to the National Assembly, but by staying in the race they are likely to bleed votes from the Centre-Right to the benefit of the Socialists.

But the Left also faces its own wild cards in the shape of the diverse green movement, which is predicted to draw 5 per cent of the vote with about 1,000 candidates. The Verts, the largest ecology party, has drawn up a pact with the Socialists, agreeing to support the party's candidates in 77 constituencies in return for left-wing backing in 29 other contests. The six other green parties fan out across the political spectrum and may prove an important, if unpredictable factor, in the final outcome.

As required under French electoral law, the last opinion poll was published on Sunday, predicting a renewed but slimmed-down majority for the Centre-Right.

□ **Pilots strike:** France's SNCF railways reported last night that traffic was slowly returning to normal after ticket inspectors in most cities voted to end a five-day strike that disrupted long-distance and inter-city trains.

Air transport is expected to be disrupted today when pilots at Air France plan to begin a four-day strike in protest at a planned cut in salary costs that would affect new pilot recruits. (AFP)



Festetics manor in Deb, southwest of Budapest, comes with a swimming pool, a heated football pitch and lots of Hungarian red tape

## Halfpenny des res, needs some attention (say £6m)

FROM EVA KEKES IN DEB, HUNGARY

FOR only a fraction of a penny you can become lord of a neo-classical Hungarian manor, complete with a huge park, a lake, a swimming pool and even a heated football pitch.

But there is a catch: several in fact. Although the Government is willing to install you in Festetics manor for only one forint — less than half a penny — the cash-strapped Government will

expect you to restore the crumbling buildings entirely at your own expense.

"I'd say it'd take 1.5 to two billion forints (£4.5-6 million) to restore this to its one-time splendour," Kalman Salamin, of the Treasury Asset Management Agency, said of Festetics. What you get in return is a two-storey mansion with 47,300 sq ft of floorspace. Mr Salamin's agency is offering leases on Festetics, 85 miles southwest of Budapest, and three other big estates. This Thursday is the

deadline for prospective bidders to submit lease proposals, but that can be extended if acceptable offers have not been received. Mr Salamin conceded that his agency had not been "flooded with bids", but said that an American company, which he would not identify, had made some inquiries.

In addition to the cost, buyers face the equally daunting prospect of Hungarian bureaucracy. There is, for example, the lake at Festetics. It is under the authority of the Education

Ministry. Asked why, Mr Salamin just shrugged, then added: "Since it is also a fish pond, the local fishermen's association has controlling rights over the fish."

And for good measure, a small villa on the tiny island in the middle of the lake is used by the Agriculture Ministry as a museum. "To further complicate matters, four families who also have rights live on the [Festetics] property in various buildings," Mr Salamin conceded. (AP)

## Venice 'raiders' pay their way

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

SIXTY demonstrators wearing green shirts of the separatist Northern League, who briefly occupied the Campanile (bell tower) in St Mark's Square, Venice, paid their entrance fee and left peacefully, it emerged yesterday.

The "raid" on Sunday, ten days after an armed assault on the landmark by militants campaigning for the city's independence, had a similar, comic opera flavour. After a rally addressed by Umberto Bossi, the League leader, the protesters flew the green and white flag of "Padania", the mythical independent northern Italian state proclaimed by Signor Bossi last September.

The League leader hopes a "referendum" next Sunday will revive waning public support for secession. "The real point is that the League has



Bossi: Northern League has been losing support

been upstaged," *Corriere della Sera* observed. Signor Bossi has continued to exploit northern Italian resentment of high taxation from Rome, pointing out that Italy's difficulties in meeting the criteria for the European single currency are

compounded by its need to subsidise the poorer, more corrupt and less efficient South. But his creation of "Padania", with its own militia, shadow government and currency, has largely fallen flat, with the League losing votes in local elections.

Behind his inflammatory rhetoric, Signor Bossi has begun to reopen the dialogue with Rome on whether the League might, after all, settle for devolved powers within a more federal Italy. More extreme separatists are outflanking him, and have sparked an impassioned debate on whether devolution can avert further acts of "terrorism".

The eight original St Mark's Square activists go on trial tomorrow on charges ranging from terrorism to subversion over the episode ten days ago. A group of entrepreneurs has opened a fund to pay their legal costs.

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# Opting for a quick cut and run

Surgeon Peter McDonald carefully selected a colleague with a steady hand and a sense of humour to perform his vasectomy

Some countries give you a medal the day your fourth child arrives. For me, it meant an operation. Only a minor operation under local anaesthetic but, as a surgeon, I've been doing vasectomies for years and I can tell you that the complications can be anything but minor. A swollen, blue scrotum, so large that it can be seen on the other side of the works canteen, is no laughing matter. Forget the risk of cancer, loss of libido or a rise in your



Peter with his daughter

top E — that's all rubbish — but an operation is an operation even if it's "minor".

It's seen as quaint to have four offspring, but there are dire economic consequences. For instance, it means buying one of those European people-carriers because Ford saloons can't cope. And there are other good reasons why it is essential to stop at four, the main one being that having five or more is thought rather vulgar and promiscuous — as if it was a sign of a relationship built on constant lust. Jokes about how often the TV must have broken down get tedious.

I concluded that I had to subject myself to the scalpel of a colleague — carefully selected for his steady hand and sense of humour. A quick cut and run. But wait a minute. Why me? Why not the missus? After all, I'm 42 and have the capacity to father ten million more babies. My wife's capacity, on the other hand, will

shortly run out of its own accord. After all, it's not much more of an operation for her — a quick laparoscopy and a couple of clips. I know she doesn't want any more children: and, more importantly, my manhood bits would not have to be interfered with. So how about it, darling?

For some reason, this suggestion was ignored. My friends didn't think much of it either. "Get it done and stop whingeing," they said, and "Why not operate on yourself?"

I pondered a bit more and consoled myself by remembering that both operations are potentially reversible, although the success rates are not high. Admittedly, having a laparoscopic sterilisation is an unkind cut than a couple of slits under local anaesthetic on either side of the goolies. But my wife seemed surprised when I suggested that she might be the intended victim. Almost as if I alone had caused the crisis, and so it was logical that it must be me who paid the ultimate price. After all, she was the one who had endured the pain of childbirth.

The surgeon I chose was a master of the *vas deferens*. As I lay on the table in my own hospital and felt the cold slap of iodine on my nether regions, I wondered if I would be as brave as all those souls I had operated on. The "just a little prick" routine seemed hilariously appropriate.

After a short pause, the scalpel went in and all was painless and good-humoured. We swapped a few more jokes and one of the staff nurses said how wonderful it was to be getting some sort of revenge after all those years of putting up with my tantrums.

Ten minutes later, I was on my way to the ward with my pants around my knees, leaning on the arm of a nurse. There was time for a cup of tea and a short drive home before the local anaesthetic wore off. I limped in and flopped on the sofa amazed at how painless it all was. My wife, who had just finished feeding the baby,



What a carry on: vasectomies may be minor in the league of operations, requiring only a local anaesthetic, but you have to be prepared to endure the enluch jokes afterwards

looked up. She said, with a grin, that she could not yet detect a higher pitch to my voice (the first of many enluch jokes I had to endure the following week).

By the second day, I was boasting how simple it had been. I was such a macho chap, taking it all in my stride. But I wish I'd kept quiet because the next day disaster struck. The sciatica attacked as I lifted the baby out of the bath — I was frozen in mid-air. I lay flat on the floor for five days.

Now, with my body completely repaired, I look back on my experience with some amusement. The discomfort

has long gone and I'm hopeful that the rewards will make it all worthwhile.

Occasionally, I muse on the fact that I will never be able to father any more monsters. But no old-fashioned agonising about fertility and warrior status came to mind. I have long since been liberated from that. After all, I eat quiche and wear pink ties.

No more babies? I suppose I know a reversal is possible, but anyway I believe that I'm lucky to already have four healthy offshoots, so it's probably best to quit while I'm ahead.

Reproduced from the March issue of SHE magazine

For more than 60 years, Pilates has been the best kept secret of the fit, the chic and the beautiful. Neatly sidestepping the fashionable fads introduced every few months by image-crazed America, it has been quietly practised by dancers and an enlightened elite for decades. As vital and beautiful today, at the age of 70, as she was when filming *Goldfinger* or *The Avengers*, Honor Blackman swears by it. Pat Cash has adopted it into his personal fitness regime, to complement the more vigorous and aerobic aspects of his athletic lifestyle, and Stefanie Powers says it is "the single most effective exercise technique I have ever known".

Designed to work the deep, architectural muscles, Pilates tones and strengthens the body. The effects on posture, physical health and the shape of a figure can be dramatic. While many conventional exercise programmes emphasise shortening and bulking of the muscles, Pilates aims to lengthen muscles and emphasises good posture and balance.

Although specially designed machines are often used to provide resistance, there is a marked contrast between a Pilates studio and a fitness gym. Pilates sessions are relaxing — soft classical music fills the air and the exercises are performed slowly and gently, so that there is rarely a sweaty torso or a messed up hair-do to be seen. "I hate the macho philosophy of pushing your body to the limit," Miss Blackman



Honor Blackman: keen fan

says. "Exercising should not be about burn, burn, burn." Miss Blackman's introduction to Pilates more than 15 years ago was also the result of back problems: "I remember complaining to one of my fellow cast members when we were rehearsing for a stage production of the *Sound of Music*. I had awful problems with my back. I suppose it was a legacy of being thrown around on a hard floor when filming *The Avengers*."

This year she published a book on health and beauty tips, *How To Look & Feel Half Your Age For The Rest Of Your Life* (published by Virgin). In it she devotes a chapter to Pilates including detailed descriptions and photographs of ten exercises that can be done at home.

Pilates is named after German-born Joseph Pilates, who developed it to improve his own body. Settling in New York in the 1920s, he set up a studio with his wife, Clara.

## Have a great body without raising a sweat

Victoria Walker on Pilates, the exercise routine of the chic

The exercises became extremely popular with dancers, but tended to remain exclusive to Pilates' own studio for he tailored programmes to suit individuals.

Alan Herdman, Miss Blackman's Pilates instructor, brought the technique to Britain in the 1970s. Mr Herdman's training in New York involved working intensively with Joseph Pilates' original assistants. He is now chairman of the UK Pilates Foundation and is often invited to teach in America, Japan and Australia.

Many doctors and osteopaths recommend it as an effective treatment for people suffering from chronic back problems. Mr Herdman works closely with physiotherapists and osteopaths. His clients even include people in their eighties and nineties.

Gordon Thomson (whose style of Pilates differs in some areas to that of Mr Herdman), trained with Ballet Rambert and the London Contemporary Dance Theatre. He opened his first studio in 1981 and is now director of the Body Control Studios in Ken-

sington and of the Association of Pilates Teachers. A co-director of Teacher Training for the Association of Pilates Instructors, Lynne Robinson took up Pilates in Australia on the advice of her osteopath. "I suffered from terrible lower back pain," she says, "but Pilates helped me to overcome it and I haven't looked back."

Mrs Robinson is determined that Pilates should break away from its exclusive roots. She runs classes in Sevenoaks, Kent, and in London. Together with Mr Thomson, she has written a comprehensive manual featuring more than 40 illustrated exercises. They hope that the book, *Body Control: The Pilates Way*, will help to bring the technique to a wider audience.

Although it is perhaps best to experience the one-to-one intensive training of a qualified instructor, these books will bring the benefits of Pilates into the homes of everyone.

Body Control: The Pilates Way, by Gordon Thomson and Lynne Robinson, is published by Bantam, £9.99.

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THE TIMES

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Yesterday we published a full list of hotels and every day this week will repeat a section of them. Included in today's list, which covers the south of England, are a former coaching inn at Alveston, and hotels at Farnborough, within easy reach of Birdworld and the Aldershot Military Museum or at Havant where you can enjoy golf, sailing or simply lazing on a beach.

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CHANGING TIMES



# 'I am never going to be made a dame doing Dot'

After a four-year gap, actress June Brown is back playing the moaning Dot Cotton in *EastEnders*. But she has no idea why she was asked to return. Interview by Noreen Taylor

The *EastEnders* publicity aide was apologetic. June Brown had finished filming for the day and returned to her natural persona. "Sorry, you couldn't possibly photograph June as Dot Cotton now. It would take much too long. Clothes, make-up, hair, all of that."

As if on cue, June appears at the doorway of the BBC canteen. She is dressed in a yellow silk shirt, olive silk culottes, and her hair is blow-dried into a chic French bob. Her stance is straight-backed and assertive. Even before I hear the drama school vowels, her appearance is living proof of June's talents as an actress.

So skilfully does she play the soap's batty old malcontent, hypochondriacal, full of prejudices, continually whingeing over her lot, boring everyone with her biblical tracts, it's difficult to believe that this is the same woman.

Difficult also to believe that, after a four-year gap, the BBC has brought Dot—and June—back to the screen. Dot supposedly spent the years of exile with her son in Gravesend, Kent.

"No, I cannot think why they have done it. Couple of new storylines, I guess. They have asked me back a couple of times, but I've been busy producing and acting in a play, *Double D*, written by a wonderful young writer, Matthew Westwood. Have you got that? Yes, just like the bra size."

"Though I do get fed up living downstairs, you know," confides June, striding into the canteen. "When am I going to return to proper theatre? That's what I want to know. I am never going to be made a dame doing Dot. I'm only doing her until May, though, then I've got my Granada series, *Clayton Close*, with my lovely Eileen Alcock, the pub landlady."

She interrupts herself to warn me: "I talk a lot, dear. A lot of rubbish mostly. An interviewer's dream I am. What's this? Tea in plastic cups." She chastises the publicity woman. "Why didn't you bring out the bone china? Looks much better in the photographs. Oh well, they've only themselves to blame..."

That's how she is. On and on like an express train blithely ignoring the stops, whistling past, without a pause for directions, questions, responses. "Cigarette, dear? So difficult being a smoker these days. I never go anywhere I can't smoke. Once walked out of a Thai restaurant in San Francisco. Can't remember how many! About 40 a day, maybe an hour, how should I know?"

"Ruins the voice of course, smoking. Supposed to turn the face yellow, too. Had to have my teeth capped, it's

the gums, you see, cigarettes dry them up, gives you horse's teeth. Could afford a facelift now, but what's the point at my age? Lying in a coffin, all that expense for nothing."

"When I do theatre I simply tape this back. Same effect. See!" Turning round in her chair, she demonstrates her own version of the non-surgical facelift.

"All you have to do," she says, lifting folds of skin from the side of her neck and pulling them backwards. "Cleans up the contours, lifts the chin."

Firmly, and I mean firmly, I practically shout at her: "June, you left *EastEnders* four years ago, because you disagreed with the way Dot was being rewritten. So what's changed?"

"I shelved Dot simply because I grew weary of struggling to keep her true to her character, which was a nasty old lady, full of bigotry, the sort who thought you got Aids from a tea cup."

"Different writers would come along, want to make their mark by trying to clean her up, make her politically correct. In the end, I used to find myself slipping in phrases like 'Ooh, I've come over all dizzy.' You see, I didn't think she should change. People of that age don't alter the patterns of a lifetime. And I wanted my character to be true to life, like Alf Garnett. No one could say he was politically correct."

"Viewers aren't daft, are they? They realise the Dots and the Alfs are with us. Just because they're not thinking as we'd like them to, doesn't mean they don't exist. Quite sharp she is, too, Dot. Like a magpie, always reading her magazines, picking things up, full of information."

"Wanting Dot to be a nice old lady, does not work. Hopefully, they have realised that now. Growing old does not automatically make you mellow. I mean, I think I was a much nicer person when I was young."

Stop! Stop! Just for a minute. "Yes, well I did warn you."

I merely wanted to point out that there is a great deal more to you than playing Dot, isn't there?

"Oh, yes. I did me Lady M with [Albert] Finney. He was only 21, and I must admit I looked rather lovely." Exactly. What I was going on to say was that you spent years with the Royal Shakespeare Company in productions of *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *Twelfth Night*, and that other actors remember you as a great Hedda, a beauty whom Nigel Hawthorne once described as "one of the most beautiful creatures I've seen on

stage". I took the opportunity to give details of relevant incidents from her past. Maternal grandparents from the East End. Raised in Suffolk by parents who veered between riches and bankruptcy. Good schools. Joined the Wrens. During a wartime tour of Southern Command, became involved with the stage. On leaving the Forces, studied drama at the Old Vic. Married twice. First husband was the actor John Garley who gassed himself in their house, while suffering from depression. Had six children with present husband, the Shakespearean actor Robert Arnold. One baby died shortly after birth, another daughter was born suffering from a paralysis, but later cured through prayer.

An edited version, *This Is Your Life*-style, was the only way to silence her for a moment.

"They wanted me to do that show, actually. My children said no, she'd hate it. I've been on so many by now, people must think it's my other day job."

Her face curls in distaste. "Can't imagine anything more awful than having to face all those people you've been running from most of your life, kissing, shaking hands. Oh Lord!"

"Yes, my face looked quite different when I was younger. The eyes were bigger, lips fuller and of course, I was much more glamorous. And no matter what any one tells you, life is different once you lose your looks. You become diminished as a woman, no matter what you do. Like Vivien Leigh, she knew all about that."

Having children put an end to my glamour. Had my hair in a ponytail till I was 50. Never stopped working, though. All my children had been on stage before they were born. All fed in theatre dressing-rooms, too. Couldn't afford to do otherwise. *EastEnders* brought in money for the first time, which was lovely. I'll come back as Dot from time to time, of course. Never got bored playing her because I know her so well. Anyway, you like having enough to do things for the children, don't you?

"I'm talking a lot again. My downfall. Some journalists tend to take me too seriously. They write about me as though my whole life was one long tragedy, immersed in grief, darkness and spiritualism. Rubbish really. They didn't understand me properly."

I am not sure I agree. It seems to me, I say, that you've faced an inordinate amount of anguish. More than anyone's allotted quota, if there is such a thing, and yet here you are, full of life, gussier than those who haven't been through a quarter of what you have.

"The only explanation I can offer is



"My face looked quite different when I was younger. I was much more glamorous. Having children put an end to my glamour"

that I'm flexible, like a willow tree. I bend, go with the storms. That way you don't snap."

"Having a lot of adversity in your life when you're young prepares you for later. I lost a baby brother when I was five, then at seven, my favourite sister died. We took death in our stride then. We weren't expected to fall apart or receive counselling. I simply went back to school and got on with things."

"Suicide leaves you with a terrible feeling of guilt, though. My first husband was a terrific actor, touched with genius and supposedly the best of his generation. I hadn't known about his depression, you see. Alan and Yvonne Badel took me in afterwards. Marvellous couple, they

were. Anyway, having been happily married for seven years, always being part of a pair, I got married to Bob 11 months later. Yes, it was a compliment to John, that's how I look at it, too."

Should Dot fall victim to another team of writers and, in the process, grow too bland, too politically correct for her tastes, what then? "Oh I shall fade in and out as I wish. Or I could leave and never be seen again. You see, I have to be precise and truthful to my character. Drama teaches you certain truths and once ingrained you don't easily throw them off."

Her one remaining ambition is to work with Mike Leigh. "Put that in, dear."

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# Time's up for schools that fail

David Blunkett has a warning for incompetent heads and staff

The Government was elected on a manifesto with education at its heart. The Prime Minister has repeatedly made it clear that our priorities are "education, education, education". Having been given this important brief, my priorities are standards, standards, standards. The aim is to infuse everyone connected with education — teachers, parents, governors and business people — with ambition and purpose. We want schools that match the best in the world. This is the background to my announcement today about failing schools.

We shall always draw attention to the many successes of good schools. We shall search for best practices, celebrate them and seek to spread them across the country. But we absolutely will not tolerate underperformance. This may sound harsh, but if we are genuinely committed to success for every child — and each gets only one chance — then nothing less will do.

Our inheritance from the Conservatives includes almost 300 schools which have been inspected and found to be failing. Of these, the vast majority are improving, some steadily and some at an impressive pace. Those involved at every level deserve congratulations for this achievement. A hard core have been closed, enabling their pupils to transfer to more successful neighbouring schools.

But there are about 15 where progress is limited 18 months or even two years after an inspection, and where the evidence suggests that more might have been done by the school and the local authority to ensure that the pupils receive the education they deserve. The last Government was prepared to let things drift in this way. We are not.

From today, the Government will be calling in the local authorities and schools concerned to meet the Minister of School Standards, Stephen Byers. In the case of any grant-maintained schools on the list, the Funding Agency for Schools will be involved too. We have targeted the local education authorities and schools without political favour. Our concern is for the pupils, regardless of which party controls the local authority in which they live.

We recognise that by doing so we risk provoking controversy, but we have no intention of getting bogged down in sectional conflict with local government or anyone else. Yesterday *The Times* published its list of 38 long-term failing schools. Today we defend those which are making the necessary effort, but we shall be intervening in the other cases.

At the meeting, Stephen Byers will want to hear from the local authorities and schools concerned what they have been doing to put things right and what they plan to do next. No one pretends that it is easy to turn around a long-standing failure, but it is right to expect that everything that can be done is at least tried.

There is now extensive knowledge of what works in such cases. Many successful turnarounds have involved a change of head. Where a new head with high expectations and determined and astute management skills is appointed, progress usually follows. Finding a suitable candidate for some of the failing schools has proved difficult. This is what prompted Tony Blair's suggestion in a speech last December that it might sometimes make sense to allow the head of an already successful school to take over a failing one. This is what happened at the Ridings, where real advances have now been made.

Success has often involved dealing firmly with a small number of incompetent teachers. The Government is committed to streamlining the procedures for doing so. In the meantime, what matters is that heads and governors have the will, and that education authorities provide the back-up to ensure speedy progress.

Above all, progress has been associated with the development in each case of a clear action plan, which sets targets and is then monitored. This plan must focus on bringing change in the classroom and must deal with more than just window-dressing. The clearer the plan is in the first place, the more likely it is that success will follow.

The Government will want to hear from those involved in reviving schools how far they have sought and followed advice based on this good practice. We shall urge that where progress is inadequate, the idea of a "fresh start" — closing a school and reopening it with new leadership and a new mission — is considered. This has worked well in a number of instances.

No blueprint can be imposed in every school, but we should expect to see improvement quickly. What matters is that in each case no stone is left unturned in the search for improvement. Our starting point is that responsibility for improvement lies firmly with the school and the education authority concerned. We commend the efforts that many are making. If we find either schools or authorities dragging their feet, we will as a last resort use our powers to send in an improvement team to take over.

It may be said that concentrating so much attention on a handful of schools is not the main issue. I disagree. Of course the main thrust of our White Paper next month, and the legislation which will follow, will be the improvement of all the nation's 25,000 schools, but it is vital to establish at the outset that this Government means what it says about standards. The central message of today's announcement is that every child matters and that we want to work with teachers and parents to give every one of them a good start in life.

The author is Secretary of State for Education and Employment.



## Wrong scent, Mr Blair

If Labour really does stand for one nation, it should not exclude country people by banning hunting

There is a black rumour circulating. It fills me with dismay, the first prickings of unease to pierce the golden haze of new Labour euphoria. It says that instead of allowing a Private Member's Bill and a free vote, the Government is preparing to put its official weight behind a ban on hunting with hounds.

It does not have to do this. The Labour manifesto promised only free vote on foxhunting, not adoption of the Bill. It was not in the Queen's Speech. This inessential frilly pelmet of a measure does not lie anywhere near the heart of new Labour's vast solid project of restoring confidence and humanity to a divided nation. Education, unemployment, the environment, housing, welfare, Europe, prisons all clamour for the clear-eyed idealism and disciplined rigour that Mr Blair's Government has shown so far. Since the morning of that landslide, the nation has been like parched ground gratefully soaking up an unexpected new sense of common purpose.

Why should that Government, everybody's Government, be bounced by single-issue lobbyists into putting its gravitas behind the banning of foxhunting? Why should Mr Blair neglect urgent tasks to facilitate the tacky symbolic gesture of criminalising a pastime that amuses hundreds and employs thousands? It can only do political harm. The positive, classless legacy of his party is an asset that will be useful in uniting us behind tougher reforms. To impose this law would align new Labour irrevocably with one sector of society: the politically correct, prissy sentimental urbanite.

For this is not a blow against some semi-imaginary "upper class" with red faces, red coats and stirrups: it strikes wider than that. A hunting ban backed by the Government would send a message to the countryside that its people were not included in the unity and happiness of May 2. By countryside I do not mean the new rich, nimbly idyllic, nor the quasi-suburban dormitory villages decked with security lights and kerbstones. I mean the older, poorer, remotest, cottagers' countryside, which earns its name, says little but follows old ways out of tradition and fascination. It asks for no subsidy, no lottery money, no approval, only that its kennels and stables and muddy cold winter preoccupations should be left alone. If this minority were a tribe of the same

size and antiquity living in Irian Jaya and using blow-pipes, the politically correct urban voices would be vehement in its defence. Because it is here, under our noses, it is despised.

So let me don the Martin Bell outfit, the white suit of sleazebag and disinterested public spirit. I don't hunt and never have. I know what it is to be infuriated by the rudeness of a hunt in a narrow lane, and to giggle at the kind of blimps who — before the sweet reasonableness of Robin Hanbury Tenison and Baroness Mallalieu — used to wreck their case in public debate with arrogant dim brayings. Once when chairing a television debate, I goaded a hunting type to reply to the populist indignation, and all he could say was: "It isn't us who kill the foxes, it's the hounds." Nor do I belong to hunting society: in the days before the election I made myself very unpopular by arguing with horsey neighbours that it would be wicked for them to ignore the wider good of the country and use their vote just to safeguard their hobby. The very word "hobby" marked me as a ghastly outsider who would never understand.

Moreover, I firmly believe that most hunting of live quarry will end anyway during the next decade or so. The social structures that support it are decaying, tastes are changing, drag-hunts and bloodhounds are gaining the interest of a new generation of horsemen. In a nation where the urban majority rules, a successful Private Member's Bill is always just around the corner. This discourages heavy investment in the hunt's animals and people. Some 15,000 dogs will die if the sport goes; nobody wants that number to rise, and packs shrink accordingly. Nobody goes into any of the hunt or gamekeeping trades these days in hope of a long career.

So that is where I stand: I neither hunt nor think the hunt has many

years left. But I can accept the arguments of those who do. The environmental case is strong. Hedges, ditches, meadows, woodland, and wide grassy headlands on agricultural land are all excellent for wildlife and plant diversity, and all desired and therefore maintained — against the agricultural trend — by field sportsmen. As long as you have private landowners at all, it is better for the look and the health of the land that they should have such motives. The argument for rural trades is compelling too: there will always be recreational riders, but without the magnetic fascination of the hunt many farriers, saddlers and livery stables would close, as surely as the kennels.

If you happen to care about equestrian sports, there are other arguments. The hunt, a uniquely tough, unpredictable, exciting, companionable milieu for a horse, is the market for hunters has meant that the British horse has never suffered as much as it might from overbreeding for rarefied uses. Our horses are famous for stamina, versatility, sociableness and even temperament, whether they end up on the hunting field or winning medals in competition. (Irish horses, of course, are even more noted for these good qualities, because in Ireland the hunt is even deeper in the culture.)

Against all these varied benefits to humans, hounds and horses there must be set the interests of the fox. Hunts argue, correctly, that foxes would be culled anyway; although admittedly the hunt does kill in a spectacularly nasty way. Almost as nasty as the way pet cats kill birds and mice, pet dogs worry sheep and foxes tear up chickens. But at least the individual fox has a free, wild, natural life right up to the last hour of flight

and death, and the huntsmen face up honestly to the part they play in the rough raw ways of nature. Although I have no wish to watch it, I have always secretly approved of the custom so many opponents cite as barbaric: the "blooding" of a child at its first kill. At least by smearing the blood on your face you openly accept your responsibility for animal death.

The rest of us don't: what happens to the hunted fox is infinitely less cruel than what happens every day in the darkness of battery farms, bullock-sheds and turkey factories. A vixen's life and death are a thousand times preferable to the life and death of a crated sow, a mare tormented and confined so that her urine may be harvested for HRT hormones, or even a cow weighed down by painful, artificially stimulated udders. The fox, frankly, has it easy. I honour those who campaign coherently for the easing of all cruelty to all animals; it is difficult to respect those who shy away from hard targets but are driven by a blend of sentimentality, squeamishness and class hostility to focus their attack on the hunting minority.

I should not like to think of the intelligent energy and genuine goodwill of this new Government being hijacked by such people. This is not what Mr Blair meant by "practical measures in support of noble causes". The measure's hollow heart has been exposed by one unwary remark. The Minister for the Countryside, Elliott Morley, said: "There are more foxes killed on the road than by fox hunts, and so the only justification for hunting is entertainment. That cannot be allowed in a modern society." In other words, it isn't the death that matters but the pleasure his "modern society" means allowing only the sanitised pleasures of leisure-centre tennis, step-aerobics videos and motor racing around the countryside squashing animals. Older, harder, subtler traditions and philosophies must be denied any expression.

Abolitionists, send no more pictures of dead fox cubs. The tide of history is with you, and you will almost certainly win in the end. All I ask is that your senseless triumph should not be identified with a Government that could do real, lasting good. And will do, if only it has the sense not to stoop to pick up every meretriciously shiny bauble in the gutter.

## Libby Purves

## Motherly love

THE reception of David Hockney's latest exhibition has been vicious and sometimes vindictive, but one woman is having none of it: his mother, Laura. Mrs Hockney, 96, divides her time between the family home in Bridlington, East Yorkshire, and a nearby nursing home. Her family now have to keep back newspaper articles criticising her son, because she finds them too distasteful.

"We have to keep a close eye on what she reads," says the artist's elder sister, Margaret, who lives in

Bridlington. "We don't want her seeing anything critical, or anything about David and smoking or sex, that worldly-wise stuff. She gets annoyed if she doesn't think it's true and it's awful. David can do no wrong in her eyes."

Hockney's relationship with his mother is very close. She has been a devoted follower of his career, and he returns home from California at least four times a year. He has spent every Christmas at home since 1961. The top floor of the house in Bridlington has even been

turned into a studio for the family prodigy.

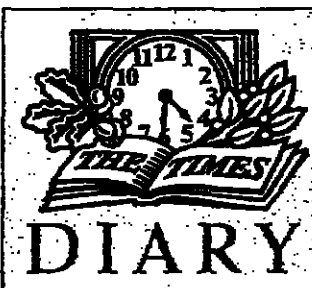
Protecting Laura Hockney from the bad press sounds like full-time work. "We are keeping her on the safe local rags," says her daughter, "and if she does find a national, we have to cut out any nasty pieces beforehand."

### Bad time

TAMARA BECKWITH, the most fitless of the "It girls", is still perspiring on her chaise longue having been set upon in the King's Road by a hoard of celebrating Chelsea fans. She had just stepped out of her front door at the weekend when she was sprayed with beer by a gang of inebriated assailants. They began jumping up and down and asking her to recreate a set of topless photographs of her in Cannes which had found their way into a tabloid last week.

Her male companion was pinned up against a wall and eventually rescued by an American friend, giving Beckwith the chance to flee on her high heels. Last night a friend said she was "ill" in bed and unavailable for comment.

● Bobbing in the sea of crumpled linen suits at Sunday's launch of the second River Cafe Cook Book in Hammersmith was Peter



Mandelson, MP, triumphant in jeans and a painfully tight white shirt. When one of his Labour luvvies approached him with congratulations, he leaned down, chin first and whispered: "You know, I am sooooo powerful."

### Our party

ALL the bitterness of the election is forgotten in Putney, where romance is on the cards between Areeka Poole, the Independently Beautiful Candidate, and Patrick Robertson, heel-clicker-in-chief to the Referendum Party candidate, Sir James Goldsmith. Robertson, along with various other red-blooded young referendiks, invited Miss Poole, 24, to the Farewell to the Referendum Party last Friday. Though she was prepared to pose semi-clad for her campaign

literature, a ruse which won her 49 votes, Miss Poole is more modest about the attentions she is now receiving. "They asked me to their party and to several other things," she says. Despite sharing their views on a Referendum for Europe, she seems too sensible a girl to get involved with such a caddish lot. "I haven't accepted any of their invitations. Yet."

● Classicists should take note of an under-used facility at the Hempel, Anouska Hempel's preposterously minimalist hotel in West London: the library. "We don't find that many of the guests actually read the books," says a hotel-



ier, "because they are not in normal, everyday English." In fact they are mainly Latin and Greek classics, collected, according to the bookplates, from the Augustine Fathers of Ballyboden and the Archbishop Corrigan. Not the usual reading of the fashion set.

### Anonymous

SHOPPING for bulbs at the Chelsea Flower Show yesterday, John Major, who in defeat is becoming ever more like the Peter Sellers character Chancey Gardener, showed that he has a better eye for a bargain than his wife. When the couple found some yellow Moonshine tulip bulbs, Norma thought ten would be enough. Her husband, however, spotted that there was a discount for 50, and ticked the box for the larger order.

When he filled in his form, however, he left the address section empty. "Everyone knows where we live," he reasoned to his wife. "Our address is in all the reference books." Happily, she was able to persuade him that now he is no longer PM, he should stop being so grand and should fill in the form in full, so that the order does not get lost en route to Cambridgeshire.

P.H.S

## These are not hard times

Anatole Kaletsky tells Brown not to be a Gradgrind

"Times are hard", said Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, yesterday as the Treasury announced a dramatic improvement in government finances and three days after unemployment fell below 6 per cent. If this is Mr Dobson's idea of hard times, one wonders what he will feel like if interest rates, taxes and sterling all start rising, and even the trend in unemployment begins to turn up.

Gordon Brown should think about it too. The Tories warned during the election campaign that Mr Brown would use Labour's first Budget for 18 years to create a profusion of new taxes, going far beyond the windfall levy on utilities announced in its manifesto. The warnings were dismissed by Tony Blair as scaremongering, but they have been made more credible by the bizarre behaviour of the Confederation of British Industry and other business lobbies, which responded to the Labour victory by demanding an increase in tax. Britain's businessmen are begging to be ravished; Mr Brown must be sorely tempted to give them what they want.

In this temptation, the usual roles of the devil and the angel are reversed. "Take advantage of the business community's unexpected passion for higher taxes," whispers the puritan devil on Mr Brown's right shoulder. "This will allow you to fill the Treasury's coffers while you have the chance, in readiness for a public spending binge before the next election." The Keynesian angel on his left shoulder replies: "Tony Blair has talked of a new trust on tax with the British people. Stick to the spirit of this promise, not just to the letter of your legalistic pledges about the rates of income tax."

Which course will the Chancellor choose? Yesterday's extremely downbeat comment from the Treasury in response to the glittering figures on public borrowing suggested that greed may be gaining the upper hand over fear. Is this a signal that the Chancellor has "looked at the books" and is now preparing to blame a large tax increase on "the mess the Tories left behind"?

If that is what he plans, Mr Brown is making a big mistake. First, it is simply untrue that the Tories have left a mess in the public finances. The long-term course of the national debt is firmly under control. The long-term fiscal outlook in Britain is far better than in Germany, France, Japan or America. Even the much discussed "demographic timebomb" holds no fears for the British taxpayer, as the OECD found two years ago, in a study which showed that on present trends Britain would repay its entire national debt by 2025, while Germany and France would see theirs double. A tax increase based on the false premise that public finances are out of control would therefore undermine the new Government's reputation for political plain-dealing, and in the present circumstances it could do great economic harm.

Britain's biggest economic problem today is the overvaluation of sterling. Inflows of foreign money, attracted by the world's highest interest rates combined with the strongest public finances, have pushed the pound back to the crippling level of 1990-92. A tax increase now would make British bonds even more attractive, pushing sterling still higher and tightening the noose on the very industrialists who have been foolishly calling for higher tax. In the days before the Bank of England was independent, the Government could have prevented such a vicious circle simply by cutting interest rates. It is this theory that a tighter budget would produce lower interest rates and a lower pound that explains the businessmen's appeals for more taxes. But in the brave new world of central bank independence, the old relationship between taxes, interest rates and sterling is likely to be reversed. The Bank will not cut interest rates automatically in response to higher taxes. In fact, it could easily raise them further after a tough Budget, since a soaring pound initially tends to stimulate consumer demand.

So the result of a tough Budget could be a triple whammy of higher taxes, higher interest rates and a higher pound. This combination might not prevent continued strong consumption before Christmas, but it would certainly create a bust by 1998 — and vindicate John Major's warning that Labour would "blow" the healthy economy the Tories had bequeathed.

Cynics on the Labour benches may be prepared to risk such a mini-recession. In 1998, after all, who wants a strong economy in the first half of a Parliament? Far better politically to have a slowdown next year, followed by a boom in the year or two before the voters have to be faced again. But Labour leaders should beware of such cynical manipulation: it did not save the Tories and it will not save a Labour Government that loses the appearance of economic competence and trustworthiness. The day the Labour Government is forced to announce an increase in unemployment caused by its own unforced blunders could be Tony Blair's Black Wednesday.



David and his mother: no worldly stuff





## LEADERSHIP VACUUM

Feuds fester when a party lacks direction

Given the Tories' current unhappy position, it is easy to understand why the party wishes to put off hard decisions. The leadership election has not, so far, provided the Conservatives with new hope. The character of the candidates matters but so does a sense of proportion, and the attention paid to the reasons for Derek Lewis's dismissal has obscured an honest examination of the reasons why the Tories were sent packing.

The sight of a party at war with itself, its leading figures indulging in recrimination, is profoundly off-putting for the electorate. Ann Widdecombe may want the best for the Conservative Party but the scrap between her and Michael Howard is doing it no good. The arguments between them damaged Mr Howard's capacity to attack the Queen's Speech and obscure his lucid prospectus for a more flexible EU, outlined in today's Centre for Policy Studies pamphlet, *The Future of Europe*. It is a pity for both the Conservative Party and the country that Mr Howard's future, not Europe's, should be the issue of the hour.

Damaging as this feud is, its prominence is a symptom of a deeper malaise — the Tories' lack of leadership. The vacancy was formally announced on May 2 but the vacuum was apparent well before then. It is the absence of leadership which allows lieutenants the space to squabble. Yet some, including William Rees-Mogg yesterday and correspondents on this page today, still argue for delay in filling the vacancy. They believe that postponement would give time for a fuller inquiry, a better choice, and a wider franchise.

They should realise that hands-off treatment for haemorrhages proves fatal. It is hard to see how order can be restored by a caretaker leader whose authority is undermined by his built-in obsolescence. No interim figure, however respected, could

prevent manoeuvring for the succession. Intra-party would occupy energies better directed against Labour. The Conservative Party cannot afford another long period of debilitating uncertainty. The Tories' caretaker would become their undertaker.

Better, by far, to choose one of the six imperfect but all, in their way, impressive candidates currently on offer. The act of electing a leader would give the party a renewed sense of purpose and direction. Policy could be formulated in confidence. Most importantly, the massive constitutional changes Labour is proposing could receive the scrutiny they need. Moreover, delay in the hope that the Tories' King over the Water might return is as unrealistic in current political circumstances as Jacobitism itself. Given the scale of Tory unpopularity, there is no guarantee that Michael Portillo or Chris Patten could make it back to the Commons for years yet, even if they wanted to. An engineered election is likely to backfire. The voters have shown what they think when the Tories try to take them for granted. It would be folly to put the Tory party through purgatory when the hope of subsequent salvation is so slim.

To delay the election specifically in order to broaden the franchise is to betray the activists whose interests are invoked. The Tories have already argued that the new 1922 Committee should organise the election for the next leader on as broad a basis as possible consistent with the minimum delay. Those who argue that the election must wait until every member can be consulted are, again, making the best of a bad job. Ultimately, the Tory party should move to one member, one vote, but the need for leadership should take precedence over any preferred method of election. Defending the British constitution is more important than perfecting the Tory party's.

## A WHIMPER NOT A BANG

One rather small cheer, at most, for the US budget bargain

Two years ago the bitter struggle over the shape of the American budget absorbed Washington. The newly elected Republican majority in Congress outlined their intention to eliminate the federal deficit entirely by the year 2002. Newt Gingrich and his troops proposed reductions in public spending exceeding \$1 trillion and tax cuts totalling \$245 billion to reach that goal. This supremely ambitious package actually passed Congress despite the obvious political risks involved. It was felled by the veto of President Clinton. That battle shaped American politics throughout 1995 and 1996. Mr Clinton won the war of public relations then and was re-elected in its wake.

The President and Congress have now announced agreement on a plan to reduce public borrowing by \$350 billion over five years and achieve a budget surplus by 2002. One might have thought that rejoicing would break out in the American capital. Both Democrats and Republicans in the White House and on Capitol Hill have proclaimed the "historic nature" of their compromise. Commentators and citizens alike have, though, greeted this "landmark" development with supreme indifference.

The virtues of a balanced budget have long held an important place in American political folklore. If not economics textbooks. This year the Senate fell but one vote shy of the two-thirds majority necessary to write the principle into the American constitution. Every American state except Vermont places some sort of similar restriction on its government. The short-lived Confederate States of America, formed by the seceding southern states during the Civil War, also endorsed the concept. The notion is at least as American as apple pie and baseball.

All this might make the absence of enthusiasm for the latest budget accord even more surprising. However, the muted response is more than justified by the facts. The arrangement offers some prospect of marginal additional restraint in Washington spending. That is worth having. With good fortune and a healthy economy it might meet its stated objective in the narrow timetable set. It does not address — indeed goes to great lengths to avoid — the fundamental factors that will determine the state of US public finances in the next century.

Mr Clinton and his Republican adversaries managed to accommodate each other because the Congressional Budget Office announced that it had underestimated future revenues by a vast \$225 billion margin. At a stroke all the difficult and divisive choices that had deadlocked negotiations dematerialised. The politicians discovered they could lower taxes, preserve popular programmes, and still arrive at the promised land of fiscal equilibrium within a five-year framework. The deal delivered is a pale shadow of the blueprint that Congress bravely backed in 1995. Nonetheless, it has been presented as a dramatic triumph.

This was the best that could be expected between a Democratic President and Republican legislature. But it will do little for the American economy in the short term and less for American politics in the medium term. The real issues that affect the US budget — notably the expensive entitlement programmes of Medicare and Social Security — have been left unresolved. They will have to be addressed after the next presidential contest. By then Bill Clinton will be enjoying his retirement. His successor will have few reasons to thank him for this agreement.

## WAITING FOR THE BUSES

They also serve a writ who only stand and wait

Professor Robert Stanton is a folk hero for the age. He is suing a bus company for the frustration of waiting for a bus, and for the subsequent cost of hiring a taxi for the bus that never came. The taxi fare came to only £2.80, though the lawyers' meters will tick up faster than that. But Professor Stanton is resorting to the courts for breach of contract. The West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Authority had publicly undertaken through its timetables to provide a bus to convey him from Howarth to Keighley. Even after an unconscionable delay, no bus came. So the professor is enacting the Walter Mitty dream of all who stand hopelessly in queues.

Everything comes to him who waits, except the bus. And when it does come, modern folklore says that it arrives full up, or in convoy with other buses to the same destination; or it drives past without stopping, spraying the queue with puddles from a thunderstorm, weather permitting. Or its driver announces more cheerfully than is decent in the circumstances that his shift ends here and so his bus will travel no farther. More passengers would complain about the service if they could find a conductor to complain to. But modern buses have got rid of conductors, making the driver also get rid of the fares, thus making the queues slower, the wait longer and the buses later.

Patience is not a virtue much practised in the modern world of potentially fast transport and instant gratification. Road rage is just one explosion of the frustration built up by fast wheels jammed in stagnant traffic.

The London Underground has experienced some examples of Tube rage. But passengers on buses have learnt to expect the worst, and they are seldom disappointed. They are as much stock characters for waiting for something to turn up as those who have arranged for the gasman to call. Or, it has to be said, as publishers waiting for manuscripts from some professors. Other countries seem to manage their bus timetables and destination boards more efficiently. But the bus pass always seems greener in another system. Railways publish tables of trains running on time, which means up to ten minutes late, and allow delayed season-ticket holders to claim their money back, if they had the patience to fill in the complex forms.

Everybody has always commended patience, but few have been willing to practise it. The first hero of Western literature, while waiting in his equivalent of a queue for the 271, said: "Be patient, my soul; thou hast suffered even worse delays than this." But his long-suffering resolution would not have stopped Odysseus pacing continuously up and down and looking repeatedly and incredulously at his watch, if he had had one.

So all patient waiters for buses and other things that never come will cheer for Professor Stanton. They may not have the time or patience with the long delays of the law to sue for themselves. But his action speaks for them all. It might just spur the slowcoaches. But in any case, it provides a more cheerful topic of conversation between strangers stuck hopelessly in the bus queue.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

### Tory party's need to confront 'hard facts' on leadership

From Mr Philip J. Duly

Sir, Amid the growing demand within the Conservative Party for increased membership, involvement (letters, May 16, etc.), I detect a reluctance to confront the hard facts surrounding the party's unceremonious removal from office. Widening the franchise for leadership elections may have merit but is unlikely to have a major impact on the party's electoral appeal. A prerequisite for electoral success is strong leadership and a sense of purpose and direction, something the Conservative Party has lacked since 1990. John Major always sought to distance himself from his predecessor and his government too often appeared to be in power but not in control of events.

The Conservatives now have at least five years and probably longer to redefine their policies. They must be prepared to speak clearly and openly. Above all, they must occupy the natural Tory territory in defence of the independence of the nation state and argue the case for an urgent renegotiation of Britain's membership terms of the European Union. They must be careful not to neglect their core beliefs: freedom of the individual, minimum state control and increased private provision.

In my view only John Redwood offers the basic essentials for future electoral success: consistency, coherence and clarity.

Yours faithfully,  
PHILIP J. DULY,  
16 Birchalls, High Lane,  
Stansted Mountfitchet, Essex.  
May 19.

From Sir Anthony Beaumont-Dark

Sir, It does not seem possible that only two weeks ago my party had been in office for 18 years that transformed our country into something of which we could all be proud.

After a massive defeat the Conservative rump left at Westminster has become an undisciplined mob who think they are fit to decide the leadership of our party.

I can tell them it's not on, because about 70 per cent of Conservatives are not represented by them, and if we are to climb back to being electable within ten years our supporters in England, Scotland and Wales must have a say. The only action for them, instead of the unelected battle for leadership, is to elect either Norman Fowler or Tom King for a period of at least 12 months.

### Brown suit

From Mrs Mary Willis

Sir, Perhaps the Chancellor might wear the kilt at the Mansion House banquet (letters, May 13, 14). Indeed it would be a useful visual aid if all Scots MPs representing Scottish constituencies were to do so, as this would help us to see just how over-represented Scotland is at Westminster.

It would be even more useful after the devolution Bill has been rushed through and the Scots have their own parliament as well as their MPs at Westminster voting on matters concerning England.

Yours faithfully,  
MARY WILLIS,  
9 Harvey Court,  
2 Oxford Road, Redhill, Surrey.

### Independent Bank

From Professor Ian Markham

Sir, I am deeply bewildered. Anatole Kaletsky (article, Business, May 9) is adamant that Gordon Brown's decision to accede responsibility for interest rates to the Bank of England will lead to a financial crisis which will culminate in the demise of this Government. The obvious question is: if that is the case, why isn't Germany constantly beset with financial crises?

This leads to a wider question. The Times has positioned itself as the main representative of Euroscepticism. Europe, we are repeatedly told, is destroying itself with its federalist ambitions for a single currency. Yet statistics show that the vast majority of countries in mainland Europe are richer than us. How is this possible?

Yours sincerely,  
IAN MARKHAM  
(Liverpool Professor of  
Theology and Public Life),  
Liverpool Hope University College,  
Hope Park, Liverpool.

### Bevin's bust

From Sir David Crouch

Sir, If Robin Cook wants a portrait of Ernest Bevin as the Labour Foreign Secretary he most admires (Riddell on Monday, May 12), may I suggest he asks the Director of the Tate Gallery for a loan of the magnificent bust of that great statesman by Sir Jacob Epstein, which the Tate holds.

This unique portrait sculpture (I believe there was only one casting) was lent to the House of Commons in 1988 on what was termed a "long loan" but is no longer on display there. Perhaps a similar "long loan" of, say, five years to the Foreign Secretary might be a nice gesture by the Tate Gallery?

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID CROUCH  
(Chairman of the Advisory Committee on the Arts to the Speaker, 1983-87),  
The Oast House, Fisher Street,  
Badlesmere, Faversham, Kent.  
May 12.

and then, having changed the system to give votes to every constituency, see who emerges as a "true" leader.

If they make the wrong move now, I fear the Conservatives may not even end up as the official Opposition in Parliament.

Yours very sincerely,  
ANTHONY BEAUMONT-DARK  
(Conservative MP for  
Selly Oak, 1979-92),  
124 Lady Byron Lane,  
Knowle, Solihull, West Midlands.  
May 16.

From Mr Lawrence T. Roach

Sir, The besetting sin of the British ruling elite is to imagine that the solution to any problem is to be found in choosing the right chap to deal with it. So it is with the Tory party, if Lord Rees-Mogg is to be believed ("Exhausted volcanoes", May 15).

The plea that the selection of a new Conservative leader should be delayed is well made. First decide what you are going to do and then choose the best man to do it. Only in the governance of Britain is that sensible process commonly reversed, to our continuing disadvantage.

Yours sincerely,  
LAWRENCE T. ROACH,  
43 Rippon Way,  
Borehamwood, Hertfordshire.

From Ms Janet Girsman

Sir, William Rees-Mogg's prognosis that John Redwood will not be elected as the new leader of the Conservative Party because he correctly warned that they would lose the election was extraordinary.

Is he confirming that the party has not learnt the lesson of their electoral defeat and is still so sodden with sleaze that a leadership contender cannot be honest and find support?

Yours faithfully,  
JANET GIRSMAN,  
61 Oak Tree Drive, Totteridge, N20.  
May 16.

From Mr Philip Bremridge

Sir, As a lifelong Conservative activist, aged 85, I am simply sickened by reading, in your correspondence columns, one politician after another rubbishising one another, and in your news columns reports of the same.

Why can it not be accepted that most people of all parties enter politics out of a sense of duty and service to their country? Of course, different

principles and different policies will and must be advocated, but they are not advanced by vituperation. Historically, politics is an honourable profession; let us keep it so.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,  
PHILIP BREMIDGE  
(Member, Conservative Research  
Department, 1945-51),  
8 Monks Lane,  
The Ridge, Corsham, Wiltshire.

From Mr Philip Bushill-Matthews

Sir, Can we stop the letters saying that "only" candidate X or candidate Y will be right for the job? Can we please agree that whoever is finally chosen then becomes the perfect choice? And that all candidates pledge their support in advance for the winner?

Otherwise, the only winner will be Tony Blair — rather than William Hague, who is of course the only possible choice.

Yours sincerely,  
F. BUSHILL-MATTHEWS,  
The Manor House,  
Harbury, Warwickshire.  
May 18.

From Mr David de Mattos

Sir, Does the Conservative Party need a leader in Parliament at this time? There are plenty of able senior Tories of sectional, if not sectarian, views available to question the Prime Minister.

Surely the need is for a party chairman of standing, similar to that of the Speaker of the House of Commons, under whose even-handed guidance the Tory party could recover its poise. Private debate of the party's purposes, structure and place in the political life of this country would serve the party better than the present public disruptive infighting for leadership.

Electing a new leader for the salutary duty of guiding Her Majesty's loyal Opposition should be done when the party has re-established its unity and self-confidence. Such a man may expect to be the Prime Minister to succeed Mr Blair, an unlikely role for anyone elected in present circumstances.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID DE MATTOS  
(Chairman, Criche and  
Witchampton Branch, North Dorset  
Conservative Association),  
Abbey Cottage,  
Witchampton, Wimborne, Dorset.  
May 18.

less safe modes of transport.

Hazards may receive unwarranted prominence when addressed by officials whose sole or primary brief is the improvement of safety. Their very brief introduces a bias which needs to be corrected if resources allocated to risk reduction are to remain in balance.

Approximately 17 years ago the late Lord Zuckerman recommended an independent "hazard committee", given the task of advising government on the relative benefits of investing in disparate areas such as nuclear energy or other sources of power, in order to achieve the best value on risk reduction. The Channel Tunnel fire is only the latest of many recent controversies when such a committee would have proved useful by reducing the risk of draconian regulations being drawn up in panic.

Yours faithfully,  
STEFAN B. TIETZ  
(Consulting engineer),  
1 Halsey Street, SW3.  
May 15.

### Channel Tunnel safety

From Mr Stefan B. Tietz

Sir, While the findings of the Channel Tunnel Safety Authority regarding failures in safety procedures are disturbing (report and leading article, May 14; see also report, May 19), with many of the recommendations clearly demanding attention, calls from others, such as fire-service leaders, for expensive changes to the open-sided rolling stock require better perspective.

According to figures issued by the Department of Transport there are 3.4 deaths or serious injuries per billion passenger kilometres on rail — less than one quarter of those applying to buses and coaches, which are the safest form of domestic surface transport — and less than a fifteenth of injuries associated with car travel.

Ferry disasters have also highlighted the hazards of travel by sea. It would be unfortunate if any endeavour to make railway travel yet safer were to transfer traffic to significantly

### Antarctic commitment

From Commander M. B. F. Ranken,  
Honorary Secretary of SWAG  
(South West Atlantic Group)

Sir, Your recent obituaries of Sir Michael Shersby (May 9) and Eric Ogden (May 10) recall a letter initiated by Lord Shackleton and signed by them both, among others, which you published on February 4, 1982, two months before the Falklands invasion.

It warned once more against withdrawing the White Ensign from the South West Atlantic and Antarctic, as was then imminent after John Nott's ill-considered decision to scrap HMS *Endurance* without replacement on her return home.

The 1982 conflict undoubtedly saved the Falklands and South Georgia from eventual handover to Argentina. The subsequent massive investment in air access and defence, together with a fisheries bonanza and the equivalent potential for offshore oil,

### Birds in decline

From Lord Hamilton of Dalzell

Sir, May I offer, as a contribution to the debate on the subject of falling bird numbers (letters, May 13), this extract from the Betchworth Game Book for 1929?

In all parts of England, this season has been nearly a record. Partridges especially have done extremely well, remarkable in that a succession of bad seasons since 1923 had practically wiped them out. 1927 had been a disastrous year and stocks had dwindled to nothing. Whether the hot summer or the cold winter are responsible nobody knows...

The sad lack of partridges at Betchworth is attributed to:  
1. The laying down of the country to grass.  
2. The increase of weekend traffic, thereby

filling the fields and footpaths with people and dogs during the nesting season.  
3. The large number of foxes in and around the estate.

Partridges are but one of a number of ground-nesting birds which would have suffered in this way. *Plus ça change?*

Yours faithfully,  
HAMILTON OF DALZELL,  
Betchworth House,  
Betchworth, Surrey.  
May 13.

Letters that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

### Cash no solution for British films

From the Editor of Screen Digest

Sir, However welcome lottery money will be for British film production (report, May 16) the problem lies not so much in the making — last year we produced more films than in any year since 1963 — as in the showing.

Typically, about 50 per cent of all American films shown in this country are given a release on 100 screens or more. The proportion of British films given such an opening varies year by year but is likely to be around 5 per cent. Statistically, it is probable that the more films are produced the smaller the proportion that receive "blanket" release.

Our analysis appears to demonstrate not only that American films are much more abundant but that each one of them is up to ten times more likely to get a significant release. Dominance of British exhibition by American-owned distributors may be one of the reasons, as the Monopolies and Mergers Commission has reported twice in the last 30 years.

Intervention in distribution is difficult to effect. It seems inescapable, however, that unless investment in production is backed up with support at the distribution and exhibition stages in the film chain, such money will almost certainly not produce the returns that ought to be expected.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID FISHER,  
Editor,  
Screen Digest,  
37 Gower Street, WC1.  
May 16.

From Mr William Marshall

Sir, I have bought my last lottery ticket. Why should the lottery and public money subsidise the so-called "British" film industry?

These movie makers are not producing Rembrandts. They are in it for profit and if they can't make it in the international marketplace that's too bad.

Yours,  
W. MARSHALL,  
41 The Drive, Chingford, E4.  
May 15.

### Tobacco advertising

From the Chief Executive of the Association for Public Health

Sir, According to the spokesman for the Tobacco Manufacturers' Association, Clive Turner, "There is no evidence that advertising persuades people to smoke. All it does is persuade smokers to change brands" (report, May 15; see also letters, May 10, 14).

But in the same issue (details, Business) you report that the chief executive of the Imperial Tobacco Group, Gareth Davis, believes that existing voluntary restrictions (on advertising) have worked well in reducing the number of smokers.

If restrictions on advertising cause smokers to give up, then advertising obviously does influence people's smoking. Does Mr Davis know something that Mr Turner doesn't?

Yours faithfully,  
DONALD REID,  
Chief Executive,  
Association for Public Health,  
Hamilton House,  
Mabledon Place, WC1.  
May 16.

### Author's view

From Mrs Jane Whiter

Sir, I should like to endorse Lady Antonia Fraser's suggestion of a book windfall for the millennium (letter, May 19) — and to suggest that it should be extended to schools, whose library-book funds have all too often been pillaged in recent years in the pursuit of "computer literacy".

Books purchased with a specially designed book plate to commemorate the occasion. Such an act would demonstrate commitment to reading for all: I can imagine no more appropriate celebration of the occasion.

Yours faithfully,  
JANE WHITER,  
35 Market Street,  
Swavesey, Cambridge.  
May 19.

### Fingers in a twist

From Miss H. M. Ridge

Sir, Anybody who is superstitious can tell Tony Banks that fingers crossed (report and photograph, later editions May 14) only works with your hand behind your back.

Yours faithfully,  
HEATHER RIDGE,  
39 Andrews House, Barbican, EC2.  
May 15.

### Minority rights

From Mr Tim Sanders

Sir, The Serious Crime Bureau is to "gather data on all unresolved murders of women, children and homosexuals" (report, later editions, May 16). Any chance of their extending this to cover the rest of us?

Yours faithfully,  
TIM SANDERS,  
8 St Albans Road, NWS.  
May 16.











# The Good University Guide

Education Editor John O'Leary introduces our guide to the best colleges for teaching and research, subject by subject

## Never mind the age, feel the quality

**K**nowing where a university stands in the pecking order of higher education is a vital piece of information for any prospective student, but the quality of the course is what matters most. The most modest institution may have a centre of specialist excellence and even famous universities have mediocre departments.

These pages and two more tomorrow focus on the leading universities in the subjects assessed by the higher education funding councils. In the past year, expert assessors have produced official ratings for research in every subject, but the judgments on teaching are still not complete. The tables in this guide cover all the areas in which teaching has been assessed in England. Not all have been completed in Scotland and Wales, but all-UK tables have been compiled wherever possible.

The assessments, particularly for research, have become increasingly controversial because some universities have reacted to disappointing results by seeking redundancies among their academic staff. Nottingham University is using research performance as a guide to shedding 50 posts, Exeter is proposing to cut 60 jobs and several other universities are developing similar plans.

At its conference last week, the Association of University Teachers threatened action against universities which used the ratings as a basis for dismissals and condemned the research exercise as bureaucratic and lacking in intellectual rigour. But the two sets of assessment give the official verdict on quality in British higher education and are the yardstick by which departments will be judged.

Our rankings have changed to take account of the latest assessments. The individual subject tables combine the ratings for teaching and research, giving each equal weight. Differences in the gradings used by the Scottish and Welsh funding councils have been accommodated by calculating an equivalent on the English scale.

The tables confirm the dominance of the traditional universities in most areas of higher education. This is to be expected in research, where decades of differential funding have left the former polytechnics struggling to compete. With some notable exceptions, the traditional universities have established a stranglehold on the top grades.



Meeting the challenge: students on the campus at the University of Sheffield, which features in the top 20 in most subjects and tops the league in architecture, Russian and mechanical engineering

Less predictably, however, the ratings for teaching usually tell the same story. This is partly because the academics who inspect departments take into account facilities such as library stock, while the traditional universities' generally smaller teaching groups also give them an advantage. The new

universities may come into their own as more applied subjects are included, but few of their departments feature at the top of the tables on these pages.

Thames Valley University is the exception which proves the rule, matching Cambridge for top spot in linguistics. TVU collected maximum ratings for both teaching and research, overtaking universities with higher entrance requirements. Overall, however, Cambridge is

again by far the most successful university, with eight top placings and bettered in only five of the subjects in which it offers undergraduate courses. University College London has the next highest number of top finishes, with Oxford, Sheffield, East Anglia, the London School of Economics and King's College London also leaders in more than one subject. The subject rankings demonstrate that there are horses for

courses in higher education. The LSE is more than a match for its rivals in the social sciences, for example, while Imperial College, London confirms its reputation as an international force in engineering. In their own fields, table-toppers such as Essex in sociology and East Anglia in environmental sciences are equally well-known. Rankings for architecture, French, geography and social policy vary slightly from those pub-

lished in the book of *The Times Good University Guide*, which is published by HarperCollins. The changes correct errors discovered since the book went to press.

● *Reports on departments in England and Northern Ireland are available from the Higher Education Funding Council for England, Northavon House, Coldharbour Lane, Bristol BS16 1QD. Tel: 0117-931-7493.*

● *Those for universities in Scotland can be ordered from the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council, Donaldson House, 97 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HD. Tel: 0131-313-6500.*

● *Reports on Welsh departments from the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales, Lambourne House, Cardiff Business Park, Llanishen, Cardiff CF4 5GL. Tel: 01222-761361.*

### ARTS

My father's dream.  
Zoë Wannamaker  
on the opening  
of the Globe Theatre.

### INTERFACE

Technology's role  
in saving the  
rain forests.

## IN TOMORROW'S TIMES

### FOOTBALL

England  
prepare to take on  
South Africa  
this Saturday.

### CRICKET

A preview of the first  
one-day international  
between England  
and Australia.

### ANTHROPOLOGY



**LAST** December's research rankings confirmed Cambridge's domination of anthropology. The university boasted the only department with the coveted five-star grade, denoting international excellence.

Four universities have overtaken Oxford since last year. Brunel, Manchester, University College London and the London School of Economics were awarded five stars for research, to Oxford's four.

Anthropology is one of the smallest subjects to have been fully assessed in England and Northern Ireland. There are, as yet, no ratings for teaching in Scotland or Wales, although Cardiff and Swansea have been graded as satisfactory for joint sociology and anthropology degrees.

All but three of the 14 departments in England and Northern Ireland were considered excellent for teaching. Queen's University, Belfast, Thames Valley University and Goldsmiths College, London, were rated satisfactory.

Brunel University registered the biggest rise in this year's table — from tenth to second — after improving its research rating. The subject is taught in three joint degrees, with psychology, sociology and communications. Assessors who judged the teaching excellent found the courses "intellectually demanding and stimulating", the students coming from an "impressive range of backgrounds".

The subject is taught mainly in traditional universities, but Oxford Brookes matched Kent and Sussex for ninth place after improving its research rating.

- |    |                              |
|----|------------------------------|
| 1  | Cambridge                    |
| 2* | Brunel, LSE, UCL, Manchester |
| 6* | Durham, Oxford               |
| 8* | SOAS                         |
| 9* | Kent, Sussex, Oxford Brookes |
| 12 | Goldsmiths                   |

(Total Institutions: 12)

### BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT



**THE** award of the highest possible grading for research has enabled the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology to claim top spot in this year's table.

The only other university to earn a 5\* rating with UMIST was Lancaster, helping it to hold fourth place.

Warwick and the London School of Economics, joint top last year, share second place after receiving ratings of 5 for their research.

Some of the well-known business schools are omitted from the list because they do not provide undergraduate teaching. The London Business School was the only other institution among 96 surveyed in the latest Research Assessment Exercise to gain a 5\* grade along with UMIST and Lancaster.

Bath owes its climb from ninth to fifth place on a 5-rating for research, indicating international excellence in some areas and national excellence in most others. The same grading was given to the departments at Cardiff, Southampton, Strathclyde and Warwick.

reported that business and management studies were "thriving" in higher education institutions, against a background of significant increases in student numbers and at a time of pressure on resources. Students can select from a range of courses.

Features judged to have excellent teaching included the provision of practical experience, strong pastoral support and high completion and employment rates of students.

- |     |                              |
|-----|------------------------------|
| 1   | UMIST                        |
| 2*  | LSE, Warwick                 |
| 4   | Lancaster                    |
| 5   | Bath                         |
| 6*  | City, Manchester, Nottingham |
| 9   | Strathclyde                  |
| 10  | Loughborough                 |
| 11* | Edinburgh, Imperial          |
| 13* | Cranfield, St Andrews        |
| 15  | De Montfort                  |
| 16  | Surrey                       |
| 17  | Kingston                     |
| 18* | Bradford, Cambridge, Keele   |

(Total Institutions: 80)

### ARCHITECTURE



**CAMBRIDGE** retains its position at the top of the table but is joined this year by the strong departments at Sheffield and University College London.

The quality of teaching on architecture courses has been found to be universally good by funding council assessors.

Institutions were said to be coping well with the changing nature of the discipline. The English funding council commented: "Architecture courses have a strong professional focus and students are able to enjoy a lively and often varied educational experience."

Most institutions were said to have exemplary arrangements for practical training with rigorously monitored placements in offices. Teaching quality was assessed in 1994 and gradings of excellent awarded to Bath, Cambridge, East London, Glasgow School of Art, Greenwich, UCL, Newcastle, Nottingham, Sheffield, Strathclyde and York. In the latest Research Assessment Exercise, three institutions received the 5\* rating reserved for departments showing international excellence in a majority of areas: Cambridge and Sussex Universities and the Courtauld Institute of Art. The 5-rated departments were at Essex, Leeds, SOAS, UCL and the Open University.

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| 1*  | Cambridge, UCL, Sheffield                                  |
| 4   | Cardiff  |
| 5*  | Newcastle, Nottingham, York                                |
| 8   | Bath   |
| 9   | Strathclyde  |
| 10  | Greenwich  |
| 11  | East London  |
| 12  | Liverpool  |
| 13* | Oxford Brookes   |
| 14  | Robert Gordon  |
| 15  | Queen's (Belfast)  |
| 16* | Brighton, Liverpool, JMU, Portsmouth, Kingston, Manchester |

(Total Institutions: 29)

### CHEMICAL ENGINEERING



**IMPERIAL** College, London, is rewarded for earning the highest rating of any British institution for research in chemical engineering.

Cambridge, in second place, actually received a slightly better score than Imperial from the funding council for the quality of its undergraduate teaching. But Cambridge's 5-grade for research was topped by Imperial's 5\*.

Bath, Birmingham, UMIST and University College London also recorded grades of 5 for research, while Loughborough and UMIST matched Imperial's teaching score.

The overall quality of chemical engineering courses was found to be high by the English funding council when it assessed undergraduate teaching.

The accreditation of courses by the Institute of Chemical Engineers was considered important for preserving standards, although its demands limited the flexibility of undergraduate programmes. Praise for using industrialists to give specialist lectures and tutorials, especially in the

final year, were given. The award of first and upper-second class honours varied among institutions from 18 per cent to 70 per cent. Assessors found that, overall, chemical engineering leads to "good prospects for employment in industry, commerce and academe" for its graduates.

- |    |                   |
|----|-------------------|
| 1  | Imperial          |
| 2  | Cambridge         |
| 3  | UMIST             |
| 4  | Bath              |
| 5  | Loughborough      |
| 6  | UCL               |
| 7  | Queen's (Belfast) |
| 8  | Birmingham        |
| 9  | Newcastle         |
| 10 | Bradford          |
| 11 | Nottingham        |
| 12 | Surrey            |
| 13 | Leeds             |
| 14 | Aston             |
| 15 | South Bank        |
| 16 | Teesside          |

(Total Institutions: 16)



# THE TIMES The Good University Guide

## CHEMISTRY

**OXFORD** and **Cambridge** retain their place in joint pole position for chemistry after gaining the only two superlative 5\* grades for the quality of their research. Both universities, which have the largest chemistry research departments in the country at 72 and 55 staff respectively, also recorded gradings of excellent for their undergraduate teaching.

The marginally lower score awarded to Nottingham for not entering all its chemistry staff in the Research Assessment Exercise sees it slip into tenth place from third in this year's very competitive table. It is replaced in third spot by four institutions with excellent teaching records which also gained a 5-rating for research after entering 95 per cent or more of departmental staff for assessment.

Three former polytechnics were awarded a grading of excellent for their undergrad-

ate chemistry teaching by the funding councils. Glasgow, Caledonian, Nottingham Trent and Robert Gordon Universities.

The institutions judged excellent were characterised by a sensible range of course material which allowed the students to study in real depth.

- 1- Cambridge, Oxford
- 2- Bristol, Edinburgh, Leeds, Imperial
- 3- Hull, Leicester, St Andrews
- 4- Southampton, Durham, Nottingham
- 5- Cardiff, Manchester, Strathclyde
- 6- Glasgow
- 7- Bangor
- 8- Heriot-Watt
- 9- Bath, UCL, Reading, Sheffield, York

(Total Institutions: 60)

## COMPUTING

**THE** computer science department at **Cambridge** is joined at the top by two others which matched its 5\* performance in the Research Assessment Exercise: Warwick and York.

Oxford, equal top last year, drops to equal fifth because, although it gained a 5\* for research, it did not enter as many departmental staff to be assessed as those above it in the table.

Other 5\* scores, signifying research of international excellence in most areas, were given to Glasgow and Imperial, while grade 5 was earned by Bath, Bristol, Dundee, Edinburgh, Lancaster, Manchester, Newcastle, Southampton, Sussex and UCL.

Just eight out of more than 100 computer science departments have been judged as excellent for their undergraduate teaching. Along with the three in top place, these were Edinburgh, Glasgow, Imperial College, Manchester and Oxford.

This was the lowest proportion of any subject assessed by

the English funding council at the time. It said it was not impressed by the out-of-date equipment it found in many departments. Top research ratings were closely linked to teaching excellence, showing the importance of these ratings in attracting resources.

The funding council also warned of the small but significant number of student recruits who could not cope with the demands of a university computing course.

- 1- Cambridge, Warwick, York
- 2- Edinburgh
- 3- Glasgow, Imperial, Oxford
- 4- Exeter, Swansea
- 5- Manchester, Southampton
- 6- Kent
- 7- Bath, Heriot-Watt, Dundee, Lancaster, St Andrews, Bristol
- 8- Aberystwyth, Cardiff

(Total Institutions: 83)

## ENGLISH

**BOTH** Oxford and **University College London** scored maximum points for English, having entered all their academics in last year's Research Assessment Exercise. Cambridge, which was the other university with a 5\* research department, held some staff out.

English is one of the most competitive subjects, in terms of academic ratings as well as entrance requirements for undergraduates. Only six universities out of 58 - Birmingham, Leeds, Sussex, York, Cardiff and Queen Mary and Westfield College, London - reached the next rung of the research ladder.

Teaching was judged more generously by the funding councils' assessors. In England, more than a third of the departments were rated as excellent. Two in Wales received a similar accolade. Ratings for Scottish universities are yet to be published, but the absence of departments north of the border from the top two research categories

means that the head of our table will remain unchanged. English has also seen some of the few unsatisfactory ratings for teaching. Overall, in England, funding council assessors found diversity of approach and called for better use of information technology. The best departments attracted enthusiastic students and promoted skills that would be useful in employment.

- 1- UCL, Oxford
- 2- Leeds
- 3- Cambridge
- 4- Leicester, Warwick, Nottingham, Southampton
- 5- Birmingham, Sussex, Queen Mary, Sussex, York
- 6- Bristol, Durham, Lancaster, Liverpool, Sheffield, Sheffield Hallam
- 7- Newcastle, Queen's (Belfast)

(Total Institutions: 58)

## ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

**READING** and the **University of East Anglia** top our ranking for environmental sciences as the only departments with a 5\* rating for research. They were already among 16 universities rated excellent for teaching.

The area, which includes meteorology, oceanography and ecology, is one in which the new universities are well represented.

Plymouth, with a well-established reputation in oceanography, is the leading example, in fifth place, but Hertfordshire, Greenwich and Manchester Metropolitan all appear in the top ten.

The new universities' emphasis on teaching was reflected in the scarcity of top research grades in the latest assessment. Only third-placed Lancaster achieved a grade five, with Edinburgh, Imperial College, London, and the University College of North Wales, at Bangor, the only grade four.

Reading, which moved up from last year's second place, was praised by assessors for the quality of its staff, modern curriculum and good library facilities. The report on its

teaching noted the advantages of favourable staffing levels, which many of the new universities do not enjoy.

When the review of teaching took place in England, all 13 traditional university departments claimed to be excellent, compared with only 15 of the 67 former polytechnics and colleges. Six of each were successful.

- 1- East Anglia, Reading
- 2- Lancaster
- 3- Southampton
- 4- Plymouth
- 5- Ulster
- 6- Hertfordshire, Stirling
- 7- Greenwich
- 8- Bradford, Manchester Metro
- 9- Dundee, Kent
- 10- Staffordshire
- 11- Bournemouth, Luton, Middlesex, Sunderland
- 12- Anglia
- 13- Derby, Liverpool, JMU, Wolverhampton

(Total Institutions: 27)

## If I don't get a degree, I'll sue

Are universities legally bound to provide what they promised, asks

Hugh Thompson

**D**idn't get the degree you wanted? Course was not what you expected? Didn't think much of the teaching? Didn't get the job you expected? Didn't get the standard of accommodation you were promised? Pelt the whole university experience was a waste of time? Was your course and campus oversold? Well, why not sue?

After all, on legal aid you have little to lose and why shouldn't universities, like the health and social services, holiday companies, retailers and banks, have a legal duty to provide what they promise?

According to some reports there are hundreds of student-versus-university cases going through the system. Students claiming damages for getting an inferior grant, loss of earnings, poor facilities, becoming depressed, lack of job placements, the difference between what is being offered and what was provided - especially relevant with modular courses. That's on top of the almost ritual cases of students suing for poor grades.

In the eight years that Professor Roderick Floud has been provost of London Guildhall University the typical numbers of threatened or actual legal actions have risen from one or two a year to around a dozen. The vast majority concern students threatening action over bad examination results. However, none of these cases ran its course and only three were settled out of court, the most significant when a student claimed she had been verbally abused by a lecturer.

Professor Floud says Guildhall's experience is close to the norm for new universities, which do not have the older universities' appeals procedures. "We are having to divert considerable management and financial resources to resist these claims. Not only are these cases very time-consuming but we have to take expensive legal advice to make sure our defence is sound."

Lawyers specialising in this area



Oxford Brookes University: "It is healthy that students are exercising their rights," says the Pro-Chancellor

say they are surprised that it has taken this long for this situation to develop. If a lawyer, surveyor, architect or doctor is negligent, they expect to pay compensation. So it should be with teachers.

"At the moment the situation for the universities is manageable, but

unless they are more careful it could get out of control, as it has in other areas of professional life," says Stephen Hocking, a partner with London law firm Beachcroft Stanleys. "It's all part of the trend of consumers in all walks of life demanding their rights."

Mr Hocking adds: "It's strange with so many more students, many older and more focused on specific careers, that it has not happened before. It isn't necessary for universities to go overboard. They should just realise that the environment has changed and they should reduce

their exposure to legal risks."

One way suggested by the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals is for students, before they start a course, to sign a contract which requires all disputes to go to arbitration (as in many areas of commerce) rather than go to expensive law. This idea was put forward by Professor Clive Booth, Pro-Chancellor of Oxford Brookes University, who says: "It is healthy that students are exercising their rights. Complaints have a positive influence on quality."

However, Professor Booth adds: "Especially with those trying to influence their degree results, there is an element of trying it on. We have too many threatening legal action in an unprincipled way as a means of trying to raise their degree grades." The Nolan Committee has suggested binding arbitration to weed out the frivolous cases, thereby saving unnecessary legal costs.

Lawyers quote four and five-fold increases in student cases in the past year. Students seek redress for tutors who have missed tutorials, failed to mark work, or, in one case, refused to talk to his PhD student.

Where modules are offered but staff leave and the university cannot provide a replacement, students are on firm legal ground. One lawyer quotes a student who, on a computing and Spanish degree, found after two years she had done no Spanish. Another student doing environmental sciences felt that without the advertised pollution module, the course was professionally devalued.

But some of these cases are the proverbial hot air which pervades all student affairs. The National Union of Students, which normally takes a radical stand, states: "This is not a major problem. Most complaints are handled internally. Today's students are more aware and are confident but when it comes to serious cases actually getting to the courts, we are only talking about a handful a year, if that."

Nicola Hart, head of the education team at Birmingham solicitors, Martineau Johnson, says: "There is no question that some lawyers are trying to talk this whole area up. In fact, most of these complaints are resolved long before they come to litigation. If there is a positive in all this, it is that all universities have had to harden up their internal complaints procedures so as to head off these cases before they become too expensive."

## FRENCH

**TWO** new universities - **Portsmouth** and **Westminster** - achieved the best results in last year's review of teaching in French. But **University College London**'s 5\* grading for research allowed it to overhaul its 29 rivals.

Oxford and Cambridge, which, together with Nottingham, also reached the top research grade, were among 45 institutions teaching French which chose to be assessed on modern languages as a whole. They are not included in this table, although Northumbria and Queen Mary and Westfield College, London, matched the best scores for teaching quality.

Assessors found the standard of teaching at English universities to be generally high, although they regretted the limited opportunities for part-time study. More than half the students are female and more than half are awarded first or upper-second class degrees.

Most language laboratories were considered well-resourced, but assessors found significant deficiencies in a minority of libraries, often in new universities.

## GEOGRAPHY

**THE** FOUR top universities for geography have all scored maximum points for teaching and research. The introduction of the starred five for research has enabled Bristol, Cambridge, Durham and University College London to pull away from Oxford, now in eighth place.

Assessors of teaching in geography were among the most generous with top ratings. Thirty institutions, including three colleges of higher education, were judged to be excellent. Cheltenham and Gloucester, Canterbury Christ Church and the Liverpool Institute joined three former polytechnics on the top rung.

Of the new universities, only Coventry and Portsmouth make our top 20, however. The reason is that last December's research ratings reverted to type. Christ Church joined

In most universities, the emphasis has switched from literature to language, with the period spent abroad assuming greater importance. Entrance requirements are extremely variable, with some universities enjoying high demand from applicants, while others struggle to fill their places.

- 1 UCL
- 2 Warwick
- 3- Durham, Exeter, Leeds
- 6 Sussex
- 7 Sheffield
- 8- Reading, Royal Holloway
- 10- Hull, King's, Queen's (Belfast)
- 13 Bristol
- 14 Liverpool
- 15 Westminster
- 16 Manchester
- 17 Nottingham
- 18 Leicester
- 19 Ulster
- 20 Birmingham

(Total Institutions: 30)

three new universities and several other colleges on the bottom grade, with virtually no research of national excellence, while the traditional universities ruled the roost. Leeds, Newcastle, Royal Holloway, Sheffield and Southampton all had some internationally-rated research.

- 1- Bristol, Cambridge, Durham, UCL
- 5- Leeds, Sheffield, Southampton
- 8- Edinburgh, Lancaster, Nottingham, Oxford, UEA
- 13- Birmingham, Exeter, Kings, Queen Mary, Manchester, Reading, Swansea
- 20- Aberdeen, Coventry, Glasgow, Portsmouth, St Andrews

(Total Institutions: 60)



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NEWS

Widdecombe savages Howard

Ann Widdecombe, the former prisons minister, dealt a severe blow to Michael Howard's Conservative leadership ambitions yesterday by accusing him of misleading the House of Commons and mishandling the sacking of Derek Lewis as head of the prison service.

In an impassioned 40-minute speech to MPs she drew gasps as she delivered a lengthy personal attack on the former Home Secretary. Pages 1, 4

Tobacco cash cut threatens sport

Major sports events could be forced out of Britain or left impoverished if a Government pledge to outlaw the sponsorship of sport by cigarette manufacturers goes ahead, organisers warned. Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, said a Bill would be published this summer. Pages 1, 53

Aid from Lottery

The first National Lottery grants to be awarded to good causes overseas include more than £3 million of politically sensitive awards to human rights projects and education schemes for Palestinians. Page 1

Major gardener

With the care of office behind him, John Major is planning to extend the garden at his Huntingdon home into the orchard which forms a substantial part of his two-acre grounds. Pages 1, 5

Nurses shackled

Human Rights groups protested after two British nurses accused of murdering an Australian colleague were taken to a Saudi court manacled at the ankles by iron shackles. Page 3

Hospital pay

Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, told nurses they could not expect a large pay rise in the foreseeable future, and was cheered loudly. Page 7

Nazi murder race

German military police commanders competed for the highest number of executions as Hitler's armies advanced across Russia in 1941. Page 8

Test of time

Scientists at Cambridge University investigating the history of the universe have installed a £2 million super computer. Page 9

Gurkhas defeated by Army pensions

Former Gurkha soldiers in the British Army are competing with Filipino women for jobs as domestic servants in Hong Kong because their pensions are so inadequate. More than 200, unable to support their families on between £15 and £20 a month, are working as cooks, gardeners and drivers. Their British former comrades get £475 a month. Page 18

Lost bus

A professor is suing a public transport authority in Yorkshire because his bus failed to turn up after a two-hour wait. He wants his £2.80 taxi fare and £10 court costs. Page 9

Wind of change

A plan to build the biggest wind farm in Europe, consisting of 40 turbines, more than half as high again as Nelson's Column, in one of the last British wild landscapes has caused outrage. Page 15

US forces axed

The Pentagon, in the most comprehensive review of US defences since the end of the Cold War, reached a compromise to axe dozens of bases and thousands of personnel. Page 16

Kabila arrives

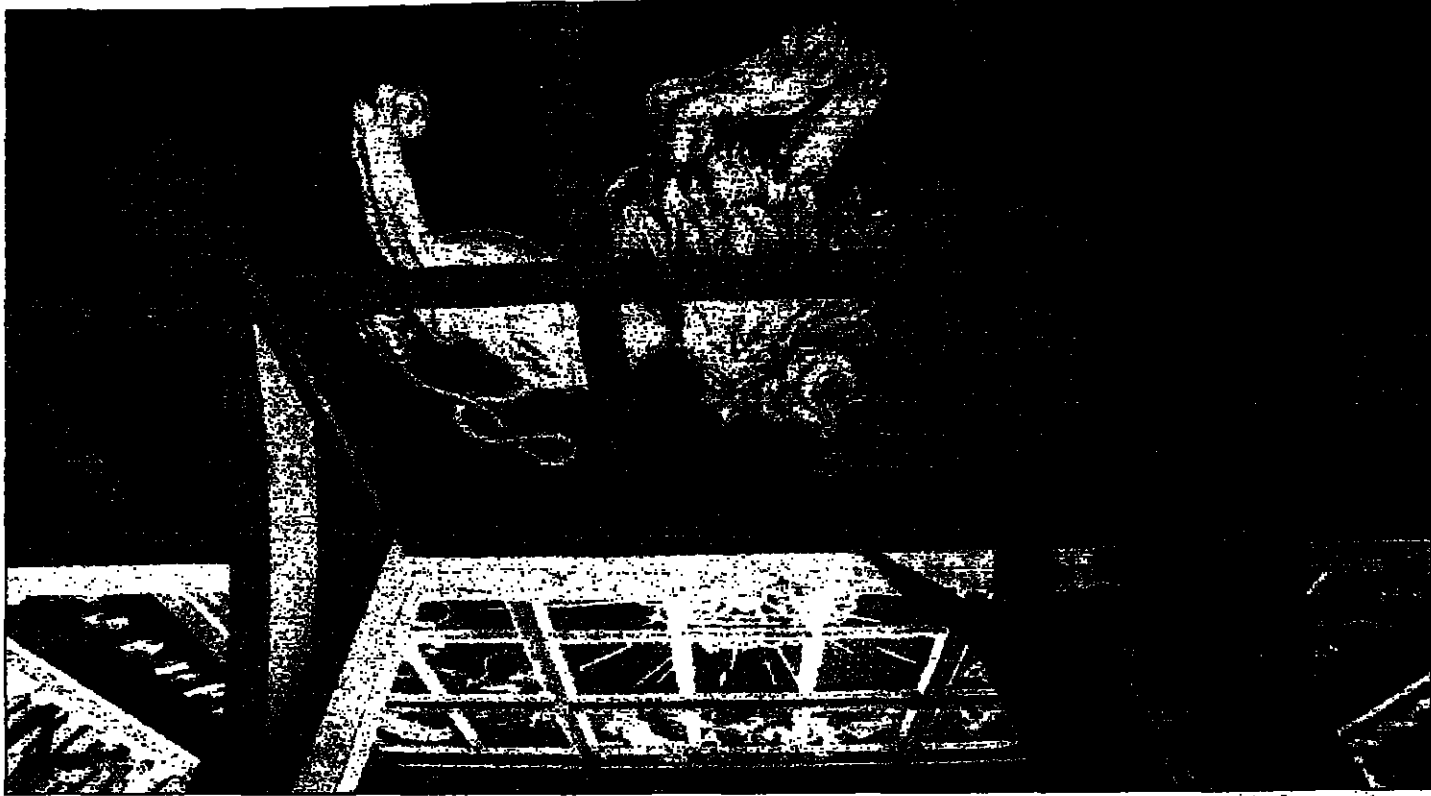
Laurent Kabila, the Zairean rebel leader, is to enter Kinshasa, the capital of the newly-declared Democratic Republic of Congo, today. Page 17

Afghan mutiny

General Dostum, leader of northern Afghanistan and the last bulwark against the Taliban Islamic militia, faced a potentially disastrous mutiny. Page 18

To the manor bought

For a fraction of a penny you can be lord of a Hungarian manor, with park, lake, swimming pool and heated football pitch. But there is a catch. Page 19



A workman puts the final gloss on the ceiling at London's new Globe theatre before its official opening later this summer

BUSINESS

**Economy boost:** The government borrowing requirement this year looks likely to be significantly lower than forecast after figures showed the public sector running a budget surplus in April. Page 29

**British Airways:** BA revealed a bumper bonus package averaging £1,100 for its 58,000 employees but was accused of having a '19th century mill-owner approach to industrial relations'. Page 29

**Electricity cut:** Households served by ScottishPower will have bills cut by about £6 a year. Page 29

**Markets:** The FT-SE 100 Index fell 48.7 points to close at 4645.2. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 98.6 to 99.2 after a rise from \$1.6375 to \$1.6387 and from DM2.7741 to DM2.7981. Page 32

SPORT

**Football:** Howard Wilkinson, the FA's technical director, pleaded for wide-ranging change in the English game. Page 56

**Golf:** Sam Torrance beat Ian Woosnam, and Colin Montgomerie defeated José María Olazábal in the European qualifying stage of the Andersen Consulting World Championship. Page 56

**Sailing:** Olivier de Kersuson broke one of the toughest records when he set a time of 71 days 14hr 18min 8sec for non-stop circumnavigation of the globe. Page 52

**Athletics:** A third positive drugs test is expected to arise in the US after high levels of male hormones were found in samples given by Mary Staney and Sandra Farmer-Patrick. Page 56

**Ear-openers:** John Eliot Gardiner and the London Philharmonic Orchestra were breath-taking for Glyndebourne's opening of Puccini's *Manon Lescaut*. Page 36

**Swinging back:** A new exhibition in Brighton recalls the Sixties in Britain and France, from David Bailey and Courtyes dresses to Beatlemania and Parisian demonstrations. Page 37

**Family matters:** The Rodney Ackland revival continues with his *After October* in Chichester, an appealing chronicle of a slovenly, troubled family. Page 37

**Sell-out:** Garth Brooks, America's second biggest-selling pop artist after the Beatles, interrupts his US tour to play three record-breaking gigs in Dublin. Page 38



IN THE TIMES

**DREAM SCHEME**  
Zoe Wanamaker on the realisation of her father's great project, the Globe Theatre

**SWEAT EQUITY**  
A housing association is offering stakes in a flat-block renovation in return for labour

**Preview:** Can a British inventor restore sight to the developing world? QED: *Superspecs* (BBC1, 10pm). Review: Joe Joseph finds Melissa hotting up. Pages 50, 51

Leadership vacuum

Ann Widdecombe may want the best for the Conservative Party but the scrap between her and Michael Howard is doing it no good. It is the absence of leadership which allows lieutenants the space to squabble. Page 23

A whimper not a bang

The budget agreement was perhaps the best that could be expected between a Democratic President and Republican legislature. Even so, it will do little for the American economy in the short term and less for American politics in the medium term. Page 23

Waiting for the buses

The professor is enacting the Walter Mitty dream of all who stand hopelessly in queues. Everything comes to him who waits, except the bus. Page 23

DAVID BLUNKETT

The Prime Minister has repeatedly made it clear that his priorities are 'education, education and education'. Having been given this important brief, my priorities are standards, standards and standards. From today, the Government will be calling in the local authorities and schools concerned to meet the Minister of School Standards, Stephen Byers. Page 22

LIBBY PURVES

Why should this Government, everybody's Government, be bounced by single-issue lobbyists into putting its gravitas behind the banning of foxhunting? Page 22

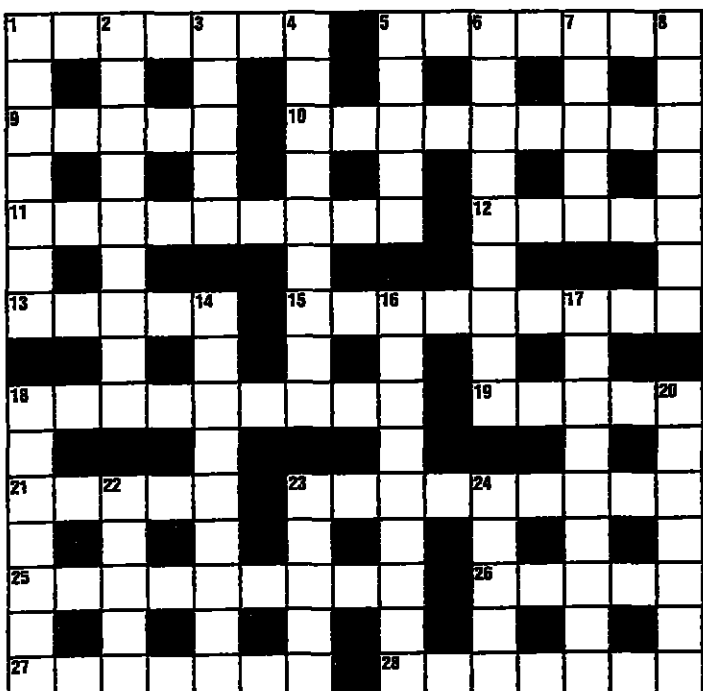
PETER RIDDELL

That cry from the heart, and the soul, about standards in public life is what made Miss Widdecombe's speech so vivid. Page 4

**Major-General Ken Shephard,** CB, DSO and Bar, His Honour Gordon Friend, circuit judge, Col-in-Thom, artist. Page 25

**Tory Party leadership:** lottery money for films, tobacco advertising, channel tunnel safety. Page 23

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,484



- ACROSS**
- 1 Polish poet with single entry hard to follow (7).
  - 5 Calm current in South American river (7).
  - 9 Presenting imitation brooch in silver case (5).
  - 10 Twisting and turning across lake on skis, initially (9).
  - 11 He won't go alone with trip for residents (9).
  - 12 Firm split by revolutionary belief (5).
  - 13 Exhaust pipe (5).
  - 15 Minimal changes in sea levels despite an upheaval (4,3).
  - 18 A learner taken in to stay, as usual (9).
  - 19 One's note gaining admission in party in dance centre (5).
  - 21 Criticise cook (5).
  - 23 Fruit flavour used in making rock (9).
  - 25 Vexing when held in check on both sides of crossing place (9).
- DOWN**
- 2 Damp fog - nothing discernible in it (5).
  - 7 It may irritate viewers when broadcast (4,3).
  - 8 Indicator of turnings in mine passage leading to face (4,3).
  - 1 Paid for fare and got into train (7).
  - 2 Check condition and put back in place (9).
  - 3 Individual not to open fire (5).
  - 4 Uncertainty shown by fellow I met in Scottish station (9).
  - 5 Religious leader who's said to conduct Inquisition? (5).
  - 6 Gave up as mounted police declined to go outside (9).
  - 7 Showing a strong passion (5).
  - 8 Fully occupy rude quarters at the top (7).
  - 14 Dangerously close encounter with new world in dawn of galaxy (4,5).
  - 16 Recorder of rise and fall of Hercules, perhaps (9).
  - 17 Tyranny of Paris initially evident in fashion of modistes (9).
  - 18 Standard surmounting a favourite defensive work (7).
  - 20 After bowling spell, spinner gets cap (7).
  - 22 In the main, somewhat perplexed (2,3).
  - 23 Windblown soil deprivation besetting East (5).
  - 24 Steps taken by Weller to some degree (5).

**Solution to Puzzle No 20,483**

MELODISTS SAMOS  
A A T E E C I N  
NEUS QUADRIE  
I E T U S A E K  
FAROSE IMPASSE  
E M L O T L  
S E I P O S S I O N S  
A B R A D A I S E M E N T  
C O I L O L C A  
C O O L U M L O T T E R Y  
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**HIGHEST & LOWEST**  
Yesterday's highest and lowest temperatures in the UK. (Source: Met Office, 12.30)

**NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING**  
Recycled paper made up of 40% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1996

FORECAST

**General:** most of England and Wales should start grey and misty but become brighter through the morning. Heavy showers are expected to break out with some thunder in places. The extreme north should be more cloudy with patchy rain.

**Scotland:** should be mostly cloudy with occasional rain and perhaps the odd heavier burst. There may be some drier, brighter spells in more western parts. Northern Ireland is likely to be mainly cloudy with some patchy light rain.

**London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, Midlands, E England, Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales, Central N England:** misty start becoming brighter but with heavy and possibly thundery showers developing. Winds mostly light, south to southwesterly. Max 17-19C (63-66F).

**N Wales, NW England:** mostly cloudy but mainly dry. Wind light and variable. Max 14-16C (57-61F).

**Lake District, Isle of Man, NE England:** rain clearing from the south.

**Politen forecast today:** all regions should be low.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Rain	Max	Min
Aberdeen	12	129	9	48	1	
Anglesey	54	002	19	86	1	
Aquino	76	6	20	58	19	
Avalon	34	001	17	62	19	
Birmingham	24	007	19	96	1	
Bognor R	29	021	16	61	1	
Bournemouth	29	021	16	61	1	
Bristol	29	021	16	61	1	
Buxton	29	021	16	61	1	
Cardiff	29	021	16	61	1	
Chichester	29	021	16	61	1	
Chorley	29	021	16	61	1	
Colwyn Bay	29	021	16	61	1	
Cromer	29	021	16	61	1	
Dover	29	021	16	61	1	
Eastbourne	29	021	16	61	1	
Edinburgh	29	021	16	61	1	
Exeter	29	021	16	61	1	
Exmouth	29	021	16	61	1	
Falmouth	29	021	16	61	1	
Filpburg	29	021	16	61	1	
Folkestone	29	021	16	61	1	
Glasgow	29	021	16	61	1	
Gurnessey	29	021	16	61	1	
Hastings	29	021	16	61	1	
Hayling I	29	021	16	61	1	
Hemel St	29	021	16	61	1	
Hove	29	021	16	61	1	
Hurstling	29	021	16	61	1	
Ilfracombe	29	021	16	61	1	
Isle of Man	29	021	16	61	1	
Jersey	29	021	16	61	1	
Kinross	29	021	16	61	1	



# THE TIMES

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BUSINESS EDITOR: Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY MAY 20 1997



Air smiles: but Bob Ayling's sunny visage yesterday may be darkened if British Airways cabin crew vote in favour of industrial action next month

## Bonuses fail to fend off attack on BA staff relations

By Jon Ashworth

BRITISH AIRWAYS revealed a bumper bonus package averaging £1,100 for its 58,000 employees yesterday but was accused of having a "19th century mill-owner approach to industrial relations" ahead of its cabin crew balloting over industrial action.

Pre-tax profits rose 9.4 per cent to £640 million in the year to March 31, leaving BA's UK-based staff with an average bonus of almost £1,100 each, or about 3.3 weeks' basic pay. Employees are to share a £94 million bonus, comprising £89 million in shared profits, plus ten free BA shares each.

The windfall comes as BA cabin crew prepare to vote on industrial action. Members of the British Airways Stewards and Stewardesses Association (BASSA), part of the T&G union, are protesting over new terms and conditions. The ballot result will be announced on June 27.

Bill Morris, general secretary of T&G, attacked BA after it closed the BASSA offices at Gatwick and Heathrow. BA hopes to learn soon whether its alliance with American Airlines will be cleared to proceed. Bob Ayling, BA's chief executive, said he had been "picking up the threads" with government ministers and hoped the matter would be treated "with all due dispatch". Rival airlines, led by United Airlines and Lufthansa, combined last week to create the Star Alliance, lending increased urgency to BA's calls.

BA's operating profits fell 25 per cent to £546 million (£728 million), dragged down by a 20 per cent rise in fuel costs, together with a £127 million write-back of a provision against BA's stake in USAir, soon to be disposed of, largely cancelled out the shortfall. BA wrote down the value of its

USAir investment by 50 per cent two years ago. Sir Colin Marshall, BA's chairman, said: "Economic conditions in British Airways' major markets are expected to produce continuing growth in demand for air travel during the next 12 months, with the UK and US economies still strong. Sterling's current strength will adversely impact profits, although it is anticipated that this will at least partially be offset by lower fuel prices and further business efficiency improvements."

The rise in fuel prices trimmed £55 million from operating profits last year, but prices have now eased. BA's efficiency drive will provide more than £200 million in savings in the current financial year, rising to £600 million in the year to March 2000.

BA admitted to serious bag-

Tempus ..... 32

gage problems at Heathrow Terminal One, but said the situation is under control. The company blamed BAA, which is upgrading baggage systems, but faces separate difficulties with BA baggage handlers. Some 2,800 workers in Aircraft Services at Heathrow face a two-year pay freeze, the introduction of better working practices and lower wage rates for new recruits.

BA carried 38 million passengers last year. Passenger yield on mainland scheduled services improved 1.3 per cent, but cargo yield fell 8.8 per cent, hit by excess capacity and fierce price competition. Mr Ayling said BA is looking to expand its non-core activities.

The shares fell 24p to 736p. Fully diluted earnings per share increased 14.9 per cent to 50.8p. A final dividend of 10.80p (9.8p) a share makes a total of 15.05p (13.65p).

## BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES		
FTSE 100	4645.2	(-48.7)
Yield	3.51%	
FTSE All share	2211.51	(-19.07)
Nikkei	20489.75	(+165.02)
Dow Jones	7188.50	(-5.77)
S&P Composite	830.21	(+0.48)

US RATE		
Federal Funds	5 1/8%	(5 1/8%)
Long Bond	96 1/8%	(96 1/8%)
Yield	6.91%	(6.91%)

LONDON MONEY		
3-mth interbank	6 1/8%	(6 1/8%)
Life long gilt	11 3/4%	(11 3/4%)
Future Libor	11 3/4%	(11 3/4%)

STERLING		
New York	1.6377	(1.6365)
London	1.6386	(1.6375)
DM	2.7571	(2.7740)
FF	9.4184	(9.3444)
Sfr	2.3403	(2.3241)
Yen	192.57	(185.50)
£ Index	99.2	(98.6)

DOLLAR		
London	1.7100	(1.6925)
DM	5.7575	(5.6965)
Sfr	1.4287	(1.4200)
Yen	116.03	(115.70)
£ Index	102.4	(101.9)

NORTH SEA OIL		
Brent 15-day (Aug)	\$20.15	(\$20.20)

GOLD		
London close	\$341.25	(\$344.75)

## Surplus knocks PSBR forecasts

By Alasdair Murray

THE government borrowing requirement this year looks likely to be significantly lower than forecast after data published yesterday showed the public sector running a budget surplus in April.

The Government was able to repay £36 million of debt last month compared with a deficit of around £3 billion in April last year. The City had been expecting a public sector borrowing requirement in the region of £1.4 billion.

Economists predicted that Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, would be able to make a downward revision to the Government's PSBR forecast, which stands at £19.2 billion, in the mini-Budget expected next month. But the Treasury played down the figures, saying they had been flattered by one-off windfalls, including around £1.25 billion of receipts from the sale of the Housing Corporation loan-book and the Ministry of Defence married quarters.

The data was well received on the foreign exchanges with the pound closing up nearly two-and-a-half pence at DM2.7981. Sterling's trade weighted index also climbed over half a point to 99.2. But the FT-SE 100 fell 48.7 points to close at 4,645.2.

VAT receipts were up 41.5 per cent to £1.4 billion, although the Treasury estimated that around £1 billion of this was because of larger companies paying their VAT bills on a quarterly basis. Income tax receipts rose 10.6 per cent and social security contributions were up 11.6 per cent.

## OFT investigates Dixons over 'strong-arm tactics'

By Robert Miller

DIXONS, Britain's largest electrical retailer, could face a formal inquiry by the Office of Fair Trading over alleged "strong-arm tactics" to have rivals excluded from out-of-town shopping centres.

The high street chain, headed by Sir Stanley Kalms, has been accused of using an "unfair and anti-competitive" strategy to force developers of out-of-town centres to deny floor space to Dixons' competitors. Angry rivals claim that consumers are being forced to pay much higher prices for personal computers, videos and other electrical goods at shopping parks because of a lack of competition. In documents seen by *The Times*, the

OFT wrote to many of Dixons' rivals asking for information last month.

The investigation follows other OFT inquiries into Dixons' activities, notably on the selling of extended warranties on electrical goods at its stores. This recommended in December 1994 that a code of practice be introduced. The code is currently being reviewed by the Department of Trade and Industry.

The OFT letter, signed by Donald Mason of the Competition Policy Division, said: "We are considering a complaint against Dixons Group (DGS) concerning its policy in regard to leasing space on retail parks. In many cases it is a condition of DG's taking space on a retail park that does not

let space to any other, or to more than one other, retailer of electrical goods or personal computer equipment". The OFT sought replies by May 9, but is still waiting for some to return.

Simon Fox, chief executive of Office World, filed a complaint with the OFT after he was told by the developers of the Festival Park in Stoke-on-Trent that his company could not rent space because if it did Currys, a subsidiary of Dixons, would pull out of a planned shop leasing deal. Mr Fox complained to Dixons but was told in a reply from Martin Meech, group property director of Dixons: "We are ensuring that competition to our operation is kept to a minimum."

Mr Fox said: "We have

grown from nothing to 50 stores in seven years because we offer our goods at competitive prices. Overall consumers who shop for computer and electrical equipment centres at out-of-town sites must be paying millions of pounds more because of the lack of competition."

Michael Kraftman, a director of Tempus, another electrical and computer retailer, said: "We have passed details of six specific instances to the OFT where we believe Dixons has used its muscle to keep us out. If you have three or four competitors on the same site it has to be good for consumers."

Helen Jones, company secretary of Kingfisher, which owns Woolworths, B&Q and Comet, the electrical retailer, and has responded to the OFT

inquiry, said last night: "Seeking restrictions on who can lease out-of-town sites is a tactic which doesn't work for very long."

Dixons does not deny that it has insisted on certain restrictive clauses being included in rental contracts. The company said: "Dixons, like any other retailer, is free to negotiate the terms on which it is prepared to invest in these developments and, as you would expect with any business, we will seek the best terms possible when we negotiate a lease. Sometimes this involves negotiating lease restrictions with our landlords. A practice which is not unique to Dixons or to electrical retailing."

Commentary, page 31

## Rowland's role key to Lonrho

By Paul Durman

TINY ROWLAND, ousted two years ago from Lonrho, has re-emerged at the heart of the latest wranglings to decide the future of the African mining group that he created.

Contrary to expectations of some analysts, Mr Rowland, 79, has been re-elected to the board of Ashanti Goldfields, the Ghanaian mining company that seems to hold the key to a £2 billion merger of Lonrho with JCI, a South African mining company headed by Mzi Khumalo, a former political prisoner. Mr Rowland's fellow directors of Ashanti include Nick Morrell, his successor as Lonrho chief executive.

Mr Rowland's reappointment surprised Charles Ker- not, analyst with Paribas Capital Markets, who had been

led to believe that Ashanti was severing its links with him. Although Mr Rowland rarely attends Ashanti board meetings, he would receive confidential company papers.

Lonrho's 41 per cent stake in Ashanti is covered by Anglo American, the South African mines group being forced to cut its 28 per cent stake in Lonrho. Mr Khumalo was in London yesterday. Lonrho said that its talks with JCI were only preliminary, with no firm terms tabled. It is thought that JCI is willing to be taken over via an all-share deal.

Analysts believe the talks may flush out a bid for Lonrho from mining groups such as Anglovaal or BHP of Australia.

The usual channels, page 33

## Watchdog calls truce with ScottishPower

By Christine Buckley

THE electricity regulator has backed down from a fight with ScottishPower that could have delivered a £15-a-year cut in household bills. Instead, Professor Stephen Littlechild agreed to a £6-a-year bill cut in order to end a protracted legal battle between the two.

The watchdog's office denied that Professor Littlechild had climbed down. A spokesman said he had ensured benefits for customers when the next stage in the clash — a possible House of Lords challenge by the regulator — may have yielded nothing.

The 2 per cent cut in ScottishPower's bills means its pricing regime is now



Littlechild: "good deal"

similar to Hydro-Electric, the other Scottish electricity company. ScottishPower has been fighting to be treated the same as Hydro-Electric. It successfully challenged the regula-

tor's 1994 price formula at the Monopolies and Mergers Commission and in 1995 won an overhaul of the way Scottish prices are compared with English generating prices.

The regulator refused to treat ScottishPower on the same basis as its neighbour. ScottishPower sought a judicial review, which decided in favour of the regulator. An appeal by ScottishPower was upheld in February. Then Professor Littlechild said he would seek leave to appeal at the House of Lords. Yesterday, he said it was a "good deal" and ScottishPower's customers would see a further cut in their bills "of at least 2 per cent later this year".

ScottishPower said it had saved about £10 million on the cuts it may have had to make.

## Savoy refit near to completion

By Alasdair Murray

THE Savoy Group is on the verge of completing its £62 million refurbishment project and should reap the full benefits in the second half of the year, the luxury hotels company told its shareholders yesterday.

But Sir Ewen Fergusson, the Savoy's chairman, was unable to elaborate on the future of Granada's 63 per cent stake in the company, which is valued at around £200 million.

Discussions are understood to have begun on the disposal of the stake, which was acquired after Granada's takeover of Forte, but a final decision may take until the end of the year.

The disposal is complicated by the fact that the Granada

shares carry no voting rights. Reform of the Savoy Group share structure, which would enable Granada to place the stake in the market, would require the agreement of the Wontner family who possess voting control of the company.

Sir Ewen told the annual shareholders meeting that the extensive renovation programme at the company's five hotels would be finished within a month. He added that the company would be able to enjoy the full benefits of the scheme next year but the completion of work at The Berkeley in Knightsbridge had already led to a very significant improvement in room rate and occupancy levels. Savoy "A" shares closed up 5p at £14.65.

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## Parties agree terms in Barings bond row

By Jon Ashworth

**BONDHOLDERS** in the collapsed Barings group are a step closer to winning at least some of their money back, after a breakthrough in negotiations with the Barings administrators.

Nigel Hamilton, Alan Bloom and Maggie Mills of Ernst & Young announced yesterday that agreement over a settlement with bondholders had been reached in principle. This follows a year of negotiations overseen by the City Disputes Panel, which seeks to act as an alternative to the courts in resolving disputes.

Both sides have agreed terms, and the settlement will now be put to the courts for ratification. There is speculation that bondholders could receive 50 to 60 per cent of their money back, while those who subscribed to a £100 million issue of subordinated notes could see 25p in the pound.

The two main issues of bonds occurred in 1985 and 1994. All three classes of bondholders initiated legal action against the defunct Barings plc and its directors, as well as advisers to the issues, including Barings Brothers, Hoare Govett, Cazenove and Barclays de Zeeuw.

The alleged mis-selling, and were pressing for compensation under the Financial Services Act (1986). The losers included elderly investors lured by the high rates of interest on offer, and life and pension funds such as Scottish Amicable and Legal & General. Another victim was Downside, Britain's oldest Roman Catholic public school, whose charitable trust lost £50,000. Father Charles, the Abbot of Downside, has campaigned tirelessly to replenish the charity's coffers.

Holders of the 1994 notes are likely to fare the best. This money was lent on to one of the companies in the Barings securities arm that is still trading, and investors can expect to receive a more generous offer. Thousands of bondholders lost £275 million in the collapse.



Richard Anderson, left, and Sid Taylor, respectively chief executive and chairman of Independent Parts, the components group, increased pre-tax profits from £3.7 million to £4.2 million in the year to March 31. The total dividend rises from 6.0p to 6.2p after a maintained 4p final. Earnings fell from 12.6p to 12.2p. The group said that it managed a strong sales performance in tough markets. Sales were up from £20.3 million to £25.6 million

## Sterling claims another casualty as Glaxo issues profit warning

By Eric Reguly

THE strong pound continued to take its toll of Britain's leading companies when Glaxo Wellcome, the world's largest pharmaceuticals group, gave warning yesterday that profits will decline by 5 per cent this year if sterling remains at current levels.

Sir Colin Corness, chairman, told the company's annual shareholders' meeting that the strong pound wiped

out the 10 per cent rise in sales in the first four months of this year. Glaxo shares fell 31½p, or 2.6 per cent, to 125½p as a result.

Most analysts left their profit forecasts unchanged in spite of the currency warning. Glaxo said early in the year that the strength of sterling would cut into profits, but did not put a figure on the expected damage.

John Murphy, analyst at Goldman Sachs, the Wall

Street investment firm, is still calling for pre-tax profits of £2.81 billion, or 54p a share, this year. In 1996, the company reported pre-tax profits of £2.96 billion, or 56.7p a share.

The forecast fall in year-on-year profits is entirely because of the loss of US patent protection on Zantac, the anti-ulcer treatment that is Glaxo's bestselling product, in the summer. Sir Richard Sykes, chief executive, said Zantac

could lose as much as 90 per cent of its US sales. In the first four months, total Zantac sales declined 7 per cent as competing products gained market share.

Zantac accounted for almost 50 per cent of Glaxo's sales in 1990. The figure has since fallen to 20 per cent and Sir Richard said generic competition could force down Zantac's share to as little as 10 per cent. Novopharm, the Canadian drugs manufacturer, will launch

the first generic form of Zantac, known as ranitidine hydrochloride, in the US on July 9. Glaxo is gambling that new products will more than offset Zantac's decline. Sir Richard said that Glaxo will achieve single-digit sales growth in 1997 and 1998 and return to double-digit growth in 1999 as new drugs take up the slack. Sales in the first four months of this year were £2.75 billion, up 10 per cent in constant exchange-rate terms.

Sales of other products were up 15 per cent in the period, with respiratory, anti-viral and central nervous system products leading the way. With the decline of Zantac, respiratory products now form the company's largest therapy area.

The annual meeting marked the retirement of Sir Colin. He was succeeded as chairman by Sir Richard, who retains the chief executive's title. Sean Lance, the chief operating officer, is to become chief executive in a year.

Commentary, page 31

## AMP prepares new UK bid

By Caroline Merrell and Rachel Bridge

AMP, the Australian life insurer that owns Pearl Assurance and London Life, has appointed DLJ Phoenix, a mergers and acquisitions specialist, to work on a bid for another UK life company.

NPI, Friends Provident and Norwich Union have all been tipped as takeover candidates.

AMP, one of Australia's biggest life insurance companies, is in the process of shedding its mutual status. Rebuffed as a purchaser for Scottish Amicable, it is expected to make any bid move before its float later this year. AMP will be following in the footsteps of Colonial, which yesterday became the second Australian life insurer to demutualise. The first was

National Mutual of Australia. British shareholders who sold their holdings in Colonial on the first day of trading would have made, on average, £1,300.

Colonial's shares rose 9p above their listing price to £1.56 (£53.31). The rise represents an instant 27 per cent gain for the group's UK policyholders, who were issued shares at £1.22 (£52.60) as part of the group's demutualisation

last year. However, those who sold immediately will get only £1.30 per share because of the structure of the share sale and the strength of sterling.

Around 255,000 UK policyholders qualified for shares. Each received a basic allocation of 225 shares, more than half were allocated at least 1,000 shares. More than 100,000 of the UK shareholders opted to sell immediately.

## Thrifty Britons save £18bn in first quarter

By Anne Ashworth

BRITAIN was gripped by a wave of thrift in the first quarter of this year.

Combined personal savings in bank and building society accounts, National Savings, unit trusts, pensions and life assurance increased 26 per cent. Some £18 billion was invested, £10 billion of this being deposited with banks and building societies, according to the Abbey National Savings Index.

Barry Naisbitt, Abbey National economist, attributed the rise to the continuing trend towards higher incomes. He added that some of the savings could have been motivated by general uncertainty before the general election.

For example, contributions to pension plans were up 12 per cent, at £4.9 billion, as people moved to use their tax reliefs before the end of the 1996-97 tax year and a possibly

less lenient regime under a new Government.

Savers were also busily opening accounts with building societies tipped for takeover or conversion, in the hope of a bonus, or topping up their accounts with converting societies to ensure that they qualified for free shares.

Abbey National yesterday revealed increases in its own savers' rates, following the base rate rise earlier this month. Rates will rise by up to 0.30 per cent.

The Abbey is the only the second leading institution to reveal its new rates, following the Bradford & Bingley Building Society's announcement last week.

The summer promises to see fierce competition for deposits, as banks and building societies vie for investors' cash after building society windfall payouts.

## First float in City for Japan

By Gavin Lumsden

HITACHI Credit UK, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Hitachi Credit Corporation of Japan, is to become the first Japanese company to float on the London Stock Exchange.

The company aims to raise between £15 million and £20 million in a placing of shares with institutions. David Anthony, general manager, said that the money would be used to expand HCUC's operations in business and retail credit, insurance and contract hire — which trade under the banner of Nova — and Fleetlease, the contract hire and fleet management arm bought in 1991.

HCUC is also considering entering the store card market over the next 12 months. "We are a capital-hungry company, expanding rapidly in all our areas," said Mr Anthony.

HCC will retain a 60 per cent stake after the float.

## Exchange hits 'shadows' with tighter AIM rules

By Fraser Nelson

THE London Stock Exchange has tightened regulations on the Alternative Investment Market to try to crack down on unnamed "shadow advisers" who pull the strings of AIM companies without detection.

Under the biggest overhaul of rules to date, new entrants to the junior exchange will be obliged to name anyone who

has received more than £10,000 in either cash or shares in the year before admission. This is a requirement stricter than that imposed on companies seeking admission to the official list.

The Exchange, which three months ago completed a review of the market's regulation system, said that the new regulations should stop com-

panies finding loopholes to avoid naming promoters.

A spokesman said: "As soon as you get lawyers into the room, the definition of promoter varies from the very narrow to the very wide. We would rather people went with the spirit, rather than the letter, of the rules."

"We reckoned that £10,000 was a low enough sum to detect advisers, and that making it a year before the float is a long enough period — anyone minded to make a quick turn would not be around for that long. This should allow us to get hold of anybody we want to capture in that way."

The Exchange, of which Gavin Casey is chief executive, has also told the 61 City advisers working with AIM companies to ensure that profit warnings are given more quickly. Nominated advisers have also been told to make sure a company is "appropriate" for the junior exchange before agreeing to supervise flotation.



Gavin Casey has overseen a review of AIM regulations

## Big changes at the top for American chain

### McDonald's shake-up

MCDONALD'S, the hamburger chain, is making large-scale changes to its top management structure in an increasingly desperate effort to jump-start its flagging sales and make it more competitive (Richard Thomson writes).

Jack Greenberg, head of US operations, has sent an internal memo to franchisees and employees saying that the company had to make fundamental changes in its business structure.

The shake-up will be the most significant for McDonald's, which is widely regarded as having had a top heavy management since the early

1950s. The changes include sweeping away the eight zone managers in the US, the company's top executives in America. They will be replaced by a smaller number of national and more autonomous divisions, similar to the way McDonald's is managed in Britain and other overseas markets. The new executives have not yet been chosen, the company said.

The change overturns the 40-year-old centralised management structure based at McDonald's corporate headquarters in Illinois. The new structure is designed to make the company more flexible

and responsive to the market, where McDonald's faces increasing competition from national rivals such as Burger King, owned by Grand Metropolitan, and small regional operators.

In an aggressive \$300 million marketing effort, McDonald's cut the price of hamburgers to 55 cents, which is well below most competitors, but the move has failed to lift sales.

The group's 2000 US franchisees have often complained that the stagnation in sales is partly because the company's centralised management has stifled innovation.

US INVESTMENT banks are scouting the City and West End for new premises and could be employing more than 9,500 extra staff in London (Carl Morishima writes).

Chester, the property consultancy, reports that ten US banks are seeking a total of 1.4 million sq ft of new office space, 64 per cent more than they currently occupy.

The ten firms include Goldman Sachs, which is seeking between 150,000 and 300,000 sq ft, and Merrill Lynch, which wants up to 300,000 sq ft. Goldman is tipped to acquire the redevelopment of the former Daily Express building in

Fleet Street, next to Goldman's existing headquarters. But the investment bank is also considering a development on the site of the former Daily Mirror building, Times Square in Queen Victoria Street and Canary Wharf.

Merrill Lynch is said to be interested in the Post Office site in King Edward Street in the City. Other US firms with their eyes on property expansion include CSFB, Andersen Consulting, JP Morgan, Fidelity and DLJ Phoenix.

The dash for new space reflects the continued focus by American banks on London as the hub for their eastward

expansion. Chester estimates that the total space requirement of the ten firms is equivalent to some 9,500 extra jobs. Mark Bourne, of Chester, suggests that the investment will have serious implications for the City, increasing the demand for scarce skills and driving salaries even higher.

"Most seriously for the UK financial industry, further expansion by American companies will increase the competitive pressures on even the largest UK finance houses, leading possibly to a further shrinking of the home-grown presence in the City."

## Microsoft threatens IBM's core market

MICROSOFT, the software company, is moving into large-scale corporate computing for the first time, escalating the war between it and producers of mainframe and network computers, such as IBM and Oracle. In a significant marketing assault that begins today, Microsoft will start trying to sell networks of personal computers to large corporations which currently use mainframes and Unix software. The PC networks will use Microsoft software, and the initiative has won the backing of large PC manufacturers, such as Hewlett Packard.

The move threatens to take a massive bite out of the businesses of IBM and Oracle, which sell large networks of computers driven by a mainframe and using special networking software. It will therefore extend the intensifying battle between PCs and the supporters of mainframe driven networks, such as Larry Ellison.

## ICAEW backs change

THE Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales has endorsed calls "at the earliest opportunity" for UK limited liability partnerships, but said joint and several liability remains the real cause for concern. The ICAEW, responding to a Department of Trade and Industry consultation paper, gave qualified support to the LLP proposals, which aim to protect accountants and other professionals from punitive lawsuits.

## Channel 4 setback

CHANNEL 4, whose annual report was published yesterday, said that current-year profits will be "substantially lower" than 1996's because of the launch of Channel 5. Channel 4's profits, before tax and payments to the ITV companies, were £134.3 million last year, up 5 per cent. Sir Michael Bishop, chairman, said that revenue in the next few years is unlikely to keep up with inflation as the market becomes increasingly fragmented by new channels. Profit is expected to be "minimal" after 1998.

## Bae awaits approval

BRITISH AEROSPACE expects shareholders in Reflections, the US training systems company, to approve today its £25 million acquisition by the UK defence group. BAE already owns 48 per cent of Reflections, which makes flight simulators, weapons training equipment and maintenance training aids for military and civilian customers, including Airbus. Reflections' business is primarily in the US market, but the company is trying to expand into the UK.

## Royal Blue prospectus

ROYAL BLUE, supplier of City dealing software and general IT support systems, issued its pathfinder prospectus yesterday, prior to listing on the Stock Exchange. It aims to raise £10 million through a placing in June, including £5 million of new money. The flotation should value the company at between £35 million and £40 million. Profit before tax was £2 million (1.1 million). Turnover was £11.7 million (£7.2 million).

## Paragon's progress

PARAGON, the financial services group, raised its pre-tax profits 22 per cent, to £10 million, in the six months to March 31. Earnings per share increased from 9.3p to 11.4p. The interim dividend rises from 1.1p to 1.2p. Net interest income remained unchanged, at £18.8 million, although other operating income rose from £2.5 million to £3.5 million. Operating expenses rose from £8.9 million to £9.8 million, but provisions for losses fell from £4.2 million to £2.5 million.

## Council picks Caspian

CASPIAN, the owner of Leeds United Football Club, has been selected by Leeds City Council as the preferred developer of the Leeds Arena in the vacant space next to Elland Road, the home of Leeds United. The complex will seat 13,000 people and will be used for events such as ice hockey, basketball and rock concerts. Caspian is also redeveloping the West Stand of Elland Road, which is also owned by the city council, to increase the ground's capacity to 45,000.

## Confident Silk soars

SHARES in Silk Industries soared from 68½p to 100½p after the textiles group reported an 11.8 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £263 million and made an upbeat statement on prospects. Sales rose 12.3 per cent to £16.3 million and earnings per share went up 13.9 per cent to 15.6p. The total dividend for the year rose from 6p to 7p after payment of a 5p second interim dividend. Silk says: "We are now on the eve of marketing a wider range of products." (Market report, page 32)

## RM advances 27%

RM, the software and services supplier, raised pre-tax profits 27 per cent, to £1.68 million, in the half year to March 31 on sales up 8 per cent, to £49 million. Earnings per share rose 26 per cent to 6.3p. The half-year dividend rises from 1.8p to 2.3p. The shares rose 5p, to 820p. Mike Fischer, chief executive, said: "Despite challenging market conditions, RM achieved good profits growth during the six months and continued to gain new customers in its core schools market."

## Greenway slips back

SHARES in Greenway Holdings, the waste oil recycling company, fell 12½p to 47½p after the company revealed a fall in pre-tax profits from £750,000 to £158,000 for the year to March 31. Sales rose from £11.9 million to £12.9 million, but prolonged weakness in sales to power generators was not resolved until November. The final dividend is to be maintained at 1.5p, making an unchanged total of 2p. Earnings per share fell from 2.58p to 0.87p.

## Broadcaster in talks on set-top boxes

BRITISH Interactive Broadcasting (BIB) confirmed yesterday that it is in talks to provide interactive services to British Digital Broadcasting, the digital terrestrial TV company owned by Carlton, Granada and BSkyB, which is 40 per cent owned by News International, owner of The Times. BIB, whose owners include British Telecom and BSkyB, would ensure that the set-top boxes to be ordered by British Digital Broadcasting would be fully interactive. BIB said it will provide the same services to BSkyB, which plans to launch its 200-channel digital broadcasting system next spring.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE	
Australia \$	2.22
Canada Cdn	20.57
France F	6.56
Germany DM	1.93
Italy Lira	1,366
Japan Yen	161.00
Netherlands Gld	2.20
Spain Ptas	166.64
Sweden Kr	8.46
Switzerland Fr	2.00
Turkey Lira	20.36
USA \$	1.53

BANK OF ENGLAND	
Bank of England	5.75
Bank of Scotland	5.75
Bank of Ireland	5.75
Bank of Wales	5.75
Bank of Cyprus	5.75
Bank of Greece	5.75
Bank of Portugal	5.75
Bank of Spain	5.75
Bank of Sweden	5.75
Bank of Switzerland	5.75
Bank of Turkey	5.75
Bank of USA	5.75



# Taylor-made for the job



COMMENTARY  
by our City Editor

Securing the services of Martin Taylor would be regarded as a coup by most major businesses in search of a non-executive director, so the new Government is understandably proud of having signed up the youthful Barclays chief executive.

Taylor is a strategic thinker who, when not plotting the future of the textile industry or structure of international banking, has, no doubt, been pondering the inequities and inefficiencies of the country's tax and benefit system.

As he probes more deeply into its workings and inconsistencies, he will surely be tempted to remark that he would not choose to start from here. He can be expected to ask the right questions. At Barclays, he has been known to query what it is that customers might want from the bank, an attitude which has played some part in transforming it from its dire dive into the red before he joined the board to profits of £2.4 billion last year. He has not been squeamish about declaring redundancies en route to that improvement: a fair few former Barclays employees probably count as social security claimants today.

Given the right remit, and commitment from the Government, Taylor could have a real impact on this core area of tax gathering and public expenditure. He is not the sort of chap to take on the task without guarantees that his appointment is more than mere scalp gathering.

Certainly yesterday brought much trumpeting of the Government's enthusiasm for working in partnership with business. Plucking Sir David Simon from BP to become a minister was an impressive move and there are more to follow. Lord Hollick, the chief executive of United News, is to put in a couple of days a week working with Margaret Beckett, the President of the Board of Trade.

But there are some business-men regarding New Labour's appreciation with some scepticism. Alastair Ross Goobey was summarily sacked as head of the Private Finance Initiative Panel after a year of intense effort trying to turn a government brain wave into a workable option. The new minister, Geoffrey Robinson, did not even feel it was worth discussing his ideas with Ross Goobey before giving him his marching orders.

Lord MacLaurin, the retiring Tesco chairman, was similarly left in little doubt that his presence was no longer required as head of the Sports Council. Newly installed minister, Tony Banks, made it clear that the man who had transformed the grocery business and is aiming to work similar miracles with

English cricket, was not the sort of chap he wanted around.

Both Ross Goobey and MacLaurin have one thing in common: their allegiance to the Tory party. Martin Taylor, unlike Sir Iain Vallance, is maintaining silence over the way he cast his vote on polling day. But it would be a shame if New Labour's enthusiasm for a partnership with business was as narrow minded as some might be tempted to conclude.

## Boardroom tried and laboratory-tested

Sir Richard Sykes officially assumed the chairmanship of Glaxo Wellcome at yesterday's annual meeting, braving potential trades from the advocates of boardroom political correctness by combining the role with that of chief executive.

But Sir Richard is not alone in assuming the dual status. Sir

Richard Greenbury will today reveal the success that results from his intense grip on the rudder at Marks & Spencer. Company structures need to have the flexibility to make the most of the talents available. Both Sir Richards have an in-depth knowledge of their business coupled with strong vision as to how they wish to develop the organisation. What they need most in their boardrooms is a combination of non-executives who can bring an external perspective to bear, and executives with the courage to occasionally challenge their bosses.

Arbitrarily insisting that the two senior jobs should be split would not improve the workings of either M&S or Glaxo. But while Glaxo shareholders appeared happy with Sykes's promotion, they may not have realised quite how well qualified for the role he is.

As of last week, and his election as a Fellow of the Royal

Society, he is the one chairman of a Footsie company able to boast of such scientific credentials. And just to underline the fact that the chap running one of the world's largest drug companies does know what is going on in the laboratories, he took time last Thursday to deliver a lecture to the Royal College of Physicians. It was entitled "The New Genetics: A Universal Panacea or Pandora's Box", and apparently was understood by the audience if not by financial journalists. Its conclusion, not entirely surprisingly, was that the new genetics are a Good Thing.

They should certainly help Glaxo Wellcome to continue to deliver new products, the life blood of a business which can see its best ideas copied to make other people profits. But while yesterday saw the company having to admit that the strong pound would dent its profits, the tumbling sales of Zantac are no longer considered to be poten-

tially devastating. Instead, there is a raft of new drugs coming on, aimed at coping with everything from migraine to flu.

Sir Richard has made the transfer from laboratory to boardroom painlessly, but the legacy of his early days in a white coat is showing as clearly as Sir Richard Greenbury's time on the shop floor.

## Kalms short circuits the competition

Dixons believes in playing commercial hard ball. The company has never made any secret of the fact that it likes to win in the market place and that is how it should be. But chairman Sir Stanley Kalms became nearly apoplectic when he thought that his electrical stores were facing unfair competition from the regional electricity boards. He shrieked that their retail operations were being subsidised by their core electricity services and called foul.

Now we see a fascinating glimpse of Dixon's own business tactics. The company's efforts to persuade landlords that they should effectively guarantee it exclusive rights to sell a range of

products within a retail park have attracted the attention of the Office of Fair Trading.

It is natural for an organisation to wish to secure for itself the best possible terms when it signs a lease. But it can hardly be said to be in the best interests of consumers for a business to rule out any competition. Dixons will contend that landlords are not forced to agree to such terms. The firm may even try a line about encouraging a decent mix of shops being for the benefit of the public. That somehow sounds about as convincing as a spotty Dixons employee trying to sell a five-year warranty.

It was unclear under the last Government quite what constituted anti-competitive practices and we have yet to learn what the definition may be under this one. But if the OFT looks at Dixon's negotiating tactics with landlords, it may not be very impressed.

## Suspicious minds

SUSPICIONS about the motives of those behind some AIM launches has prompted changes in the listing rules. Now we are to be told the identity of any investor with more than £10,000 at stake in an AIM entrant. The Stock Exchange is becoming more sceptical than the Takeover Panel, with its continued wide-eyed insistence that friends of David Abell might buy shares in Thomas Jourdan just because they believe in the trouser press.

## Greenalls counters slow trade

By ADAM JONES

GREENALLS, the pubs and leisure group, announced a 12 per cent increase in interim profits yesterday, despite subdued trading in its North West of England heartland.

Turnover rose to £554.8 million (£527.6 million) in the six months, producing pre-tax profits of £63.9 million (£57 million) before exceptional. The figure was in the middle of the range of analysts' predictions. Profit after exceptional was £57.8 million.

Lord Daresbury, chief executive, said difficult trading conditions in managed pubs in the North West may have been caused by the strong pound hitting the region's manufacturing businesses.

Andrew Thomas, chairman, said satisfactory progress in group results was expected over the full year.

In March, Greenalls announced it was restructuring its pubs division, with 245 managed pubs changing to tenanted status.

The company is continuing this policy of focusing on

capital-intensive city centre venues. Themed sites will be the major recipients of £90 million capital expenditure for pubs this year, rising to £100 million next year.

The total capital expenditure for 1997 will be £175 million. This includes £9 million for leisure and hotel facilities at The Belfry golf course, which hosts the 2001 Ryder Cup. The improvements include an extra five holes on the course. Overall capital expenditure will rise to £200 million in 1998.

Operating profit at De Vere Hotels rose 19.4 per cent to £12.7 million. Occupancy improved marginally to 70 per cent and achieved room rates were 16 per cent higher at £62.

De Vere's three remaining three-star hotels and the four-star De Vere Coventry will be sold. Greenalls franchised pubs and wholesaling business improved operating profit to £24.3 million (£21.6 million). An interim dividend of 6.7p (6.22p) is proposed on July 4.

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## Bowthorpe buys in Hawaii

By OLIVER AUGUST

BOWTHORPE made its biggest acquisition yesterday as part of a strategic review that will put greater emphasis on state-of-the-art telecoms.

The electronic equipment group paid £50 million for Adtech of Hawaii, which is described as a leading manufacturer of test equipment for high-speed automatic teller machine (ATM) technology that can transmit voice, video and computer data simultaneously.

Nick Brooks, Bowthorpe chief executive, said: "ATM is the only technology that can do this. The acquisition will be earnings positive right from the beginning. The sector is growing by 30 to 40 per cent a year."

Adtech's audited net assets last year were \$8.4 million, with pre-tax profits at \$5.2 million. The £50 million cash payment includes a £17 million growth-linked bonus.

Bowthorpe is currently reducing the number of its divisions from 12 to five.

## Daily Mail offers bond buyback

By ERIC REGULY

DAILY MAIL and General Trust, the newspaper group, yesterday offered to buy back the £47.9 million in outstanding bonds that are exchangeable into shares of Reuters.

The Daily Mail would then issue a new series of bonds that are also exchangeable into Reuters shares. The refinancing was partly designed to defer the taxable gain that would have been triggered by the exchange of the old series, which carried a 5 1/2 per cent coupon and were due in 2003.

The Daily Mail owns 24 million Reuters shares, of which ten million were set aside for the 5 1/2 per cent exchangeable bonds. The company said that the new bonds "will enable Daily Mail to benefit from the future growth of those shares released by the purchase of the 5 1/2 per cent exchangeable bonds."

Reuters shares closed at 663 1/2p, down 9p, valuing the Daily Mail's stake at almost £160 million.

## Chelsea buys agents to take fans on holiday

CHELSEA VILLAGE, owner of Chelsea Football Club, has celebrated the team's FA Cup win by giving the television rights to its Cup Winners' Cup matches to Channel Five and buying two travel agents for £2.3 million (Fraser Nelson writes). The company, which will open a hotel and four restaurants in its grounds in December, plans to use the agencies as the final piece in a marketing plan designed to take supporters overseas for a complete Chelsea holiday.

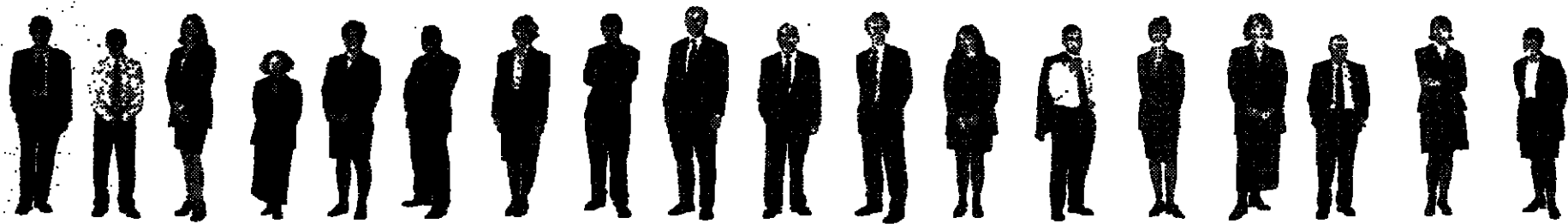
Alan Shaw, company secretary, said: "This fits rather

nice into what we are doing already. We will be able to offer packages to our supporters, including flights."

He added that the company also hopes to draw on the patronage of its 250,000 fans, who may wish to book their main holidays through the travel agents, in which it will hold an 80 per cent stake.

The shares fell 10p to 116p, after 402,000 shares were released into the market at 120p on behalf of the Swan Management (formerly Rysaffie) offshore fund, thought to have a 25 per cent stake.

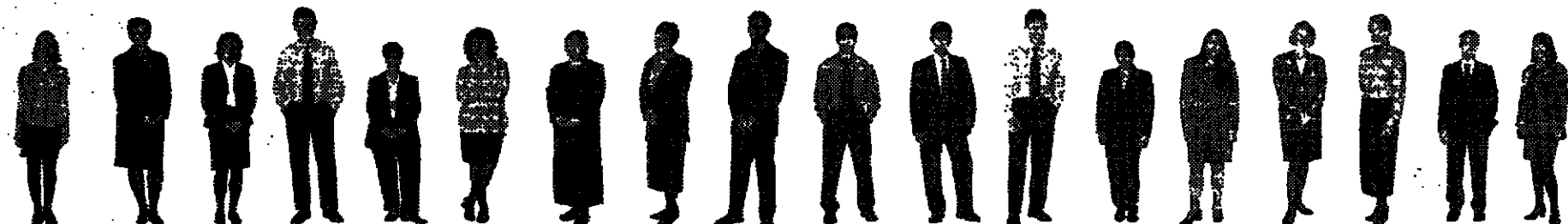
Tempus, page 32



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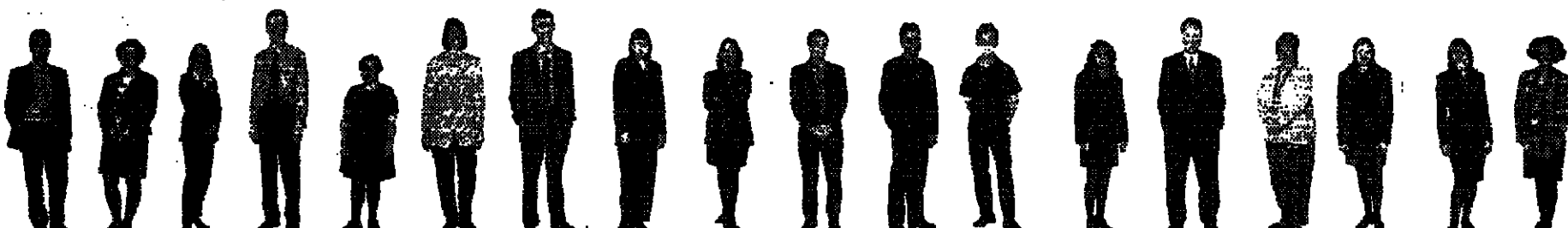
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# Not bad for a first day





STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

# Barclays shares end run as brokers turn cautious

THE recent breathtaking rise of Barclays Bank's share price has come to an abrupt halt. The price fell 40 1/2p from its all-time high yesterday to close at £124 1/2, as one of its most loyal supporters became more cautious.

Dresdner Kleinwort Benson has downgraded its recommendation from a "buy" to a "hold". Barclays had previously been described as one of its "plays for 1997". But other brokers say the share price has started to run ahead of events, a view that will not be echoed by market-makers short of stock.

Sentiment towards Barclays has also been dented by reports that BZW, the biggest securities house in the City, has been given 18 months to sharpen up. There had been speculation that BZW would be merged or even sold to the highest bidder.

Share prices generally suffered a late reaction to Friday's 18-point sell-off in the Dow Jones industrial average. The FT-SE 100 index closed 48.7 down at 4,452.2 after 13 consecutive days of gains. Selling pressure was light because of the closure of most of Europe's financial markets for a traditional bank holiday and this was reflected in turnover, with a lowly 633 million shares changing hands.

A subdued start to trading on Wall Street ahead of the Federal Reserve Open Market committee meeting served to accelerate the falls towards the close, with brokers in London reporting heavy selling of the financial future. Brokers remain divided on the prospect for a rise in US rates.

The City speculators were up and running again in MEPC as the price touched 508 1/2p on weekend reports that British Land was poised to launch a £2.2 billion offer. MEPC was being chased sharply higher earlier this month on whispers in the Square. Mike Hammons, its rival, was under institutional shareholder pressure to make a bid. Previous bid talks between the two companies broke down. MEPC closed 1p lighter at 497 1/2, while British Land responded with a loss of 1 1/2p at 583 1/2p. Hammons was 2 1/2p firmer at 447 1/2p.

Glaxo Wellcome tumbled 3 1/2p to £125 1/2 after becoming the latest casualty of a strong pound. Sir Colin Corness, chairman, told



David Tooth of Silk Industries, whose shares jumped 35p

shareholders at the annual meeting that the group had made a good start to 1997. Sales in the four months to May were 10 per cent higher at £2.75 billion, but the strength of sterling would cut earnings by 5 per cent.

Other pharmaceutical companies moved lower in sympathy. Zeneca fell 4 1/2p to £19.26 1/2. SmithKline Beecham 34 1/2p to £10.19. Scott

Holdings 12 1/2p to 417 1/2p, and British Biotech 3p to 267 1/2p. Cortice International dropped 2 1/2p to 21p after last week's update of trials into its treatment for osteoporosis. Talk of a bid was dismissed.

The red card was shown to Chelsea Village after its victory over Middlesbrough in the FA Cup Final at the weekend, with the shares losing 10p at 116p. This follows

reports that the late Matthew Harding's 20 per cent stake in the company will be sold in the market-place. Swan Management, the group's biggest shareholder which has always supported Ken Bates, chairman, sold 402,000 shares at 120p. It still owns 51 million, or 32.68 per cent.

The departure of Eric Cantona saw Manchester United touch 620p before ending the session 6p lower at 614p. Meanwhile, Hearts of Midlothian achieved a modest premium after becoming the first Scottish club to achieve a full stock market listing. Placed at 140p, the price touched a peak of 147 1/2p before settling at 141 1/2p, a premium of 1 1/2p.

Talk of a demerger of the various businesses that make up Harrison & Crossfield saw the shares rally 7p at 11p. Laura Ashley slipped 2p to 102p as Kleinwort trimmed its profit forecast for next year by around £1 million to £17.5 million and for 1999 by a similar amount to £22.5 million.

One of the best moves of the day was seen in Silk Industries, where David Tooth is managing director. The price rallied from recent weakness to close 35p higher at 103 1/2p. This follows a near 12 per cent rise in pre-tax profits last year to £2.63 million and some optimistic comments on current trading from Christopher Norland, chairman.

Catell finished 2 1/2p easier at 31p after selling its remaining 22.8 per cent stake in Roseby, down 2 1/2p at 297 1/2p. GILT-EDGED: Turnover dropped sharply as many European buyers slipped away to enjoy the bank holiday, leaving prices to drift throughout the day. Brokers were anxious ahead of today's FOMC meeting.

In futures the June series of the long gilt finished 1 1/2p lower at £113 1/2. A total of 41,000 contracts were completed. Among conventional issues Treasury 8 per cent 2015 shed 1/2p at £108 1/2, while the shorter end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was off 1/2p at £103 1/2.

NEW YORK: Shares opened slightly higher before moving lower ahead of today's FOMC meeting, which could change short-term interest rates or let them stand. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 5.77 points lower at 7,188.90.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	7188.90 (-5.77)
S&P Composite:	830.21 (-0.44)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average:	20494.75 (+165.02)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng:	14106.82 (+16.48)
Amsterdam:	
Euro Index:	Closed
Sydney:	
ASX:	2531.00 (-7.1)
Frankfurt:	
DAX:	Closed
Singapore:	
Strait:	2030.94 (+4.56)
Brussels:	
General:	Closed
Paris:	
CAC-40:	Closed
Zurich:	
SSA Gen:	Closed

London:	
FT 100:	4452.2 (-48.7)
FTSE 100:	4452.2 (-48.7)
FTSE 250:	15104.1 (-15.3)
FTSE 350:	2251.5 (-20.6)
FTSE Europe 100:	2242.61 (-9.64)
FTSE All-Share:	2214.1 (-19.07)
FTSE Non-Financial:	2220.80 (-20.34)
FTSE Food Index:	120.97 (-0.59)
FTSE Govt Sec:	96.60 (-0.28)
FTSE 100 Vol:	633.6M
US:	
Dow Jones:	7188.90 (-5.77)
S&P 500:	830.21 (-0.44)
Exchange Index:	92.4 (-0.4)
Bank of England Official Rate:	5.75%
ECU:	1.93636
RPI:	156.3 Apr (2.4%) Jan 1997=100
RPIX:	155.8 Apr (2.5%) Jan 1997=100

RECENT ISSUES	
Alliance & Leicester	608 - 4%
Ascom	890 - 1%
Ascom Wireless	2760 - 15%
Carson	974 - 4%
Comita	1474 - 1%
Donatantonio	860 - 1%
Downing Hill	100 - 10%
Drugs Hill Club	1474 - 10%
Heart of Midlothian	141 1/2 - 1%
HSBC Group	160 - 1%
Integrated As Mgt	105 - 1%
Lady in Leisure	122 - 1%
Longbridge Int'l	1174 - 1%
Mtm Currie & Cap	914 - 1%
Mtm Currie & Cap	914 - 1%
NMT (SO)	49 - 1%
Network Tech	134 - 1%
Parsons Hill	100 - 1%
Pennine AUM (100)	100 - 1%
Petra Diamonds	674 - 2%
Petra Diamonds Wts	414 - 2%
Qualcomm (143)	1554 - 1%
Salehurst	1224 - 1%
Socot Investments	1084 - 3%
Versatile Group	4 - 1%

RIGHTS ISSUES	
Barlows n/p (525)	1
Bolton n/p (18)	1
Enterprise n/p (100)	53
Oxford Mtr (360)	224
Rackwood Mtr (50)	14

MAJOR CHANGES	
RISES:	
Diageo	3730 (+18p)
Waste Mgt Int	2760 (+13p)
Irish Corst	7200 (+20p)
Premier Farnell	4840 (+12p)
Broken Hill	8020 (+15p)
FALLS:	
Cortice	211p (-22p)
Carlton Comm	507p (-17p)
Chioscience	296p (-10p)
Br Airways	736p (-24p)
Boat	707p (-21p)
Br Land	583p (-14p)
Kingsfisher	707p (-16p)
Cadbury-Schw	532p (-11p)
Royal & Sun Al	498p (-10p)

Closing Prices Page 35

## Flight of fancy

WOULD you buy financial services from an airline? BA is pursuing the fashionable route of other service providers who reckon their brand will survive the next public relations disaster. Not content to sell a ticket to Frankfurt and a half litre of J&B, the airline reckons its executive club members are ready for the hard sell. You can now buy travel insurance and a Pep from BA; no doubt travellers' cheques and foreign currency will follow.

To make this strategy credible, the BA financial structure needs to be transformed from a volatile business with huge capital commitments to one with a myriad of relatively stable income streams. Hence, the "virtual airline", BA is shedding its investment in non-core businesses. Handling baggage and making in-flight meals will be quickly shed and, sooner or later, the capital

hungry business of owning and flying planes, too, will be transferred to a third party. This is not madness (who would have thought that M&S would give up its internal distribution). BA might well say that anyone can fly planes but its real skill is making money from flying planes — managing the yield, in the industry jargon. However, the question is whether BA's brand can be used to sell much more than just tickets.

What added value does an airline brand provide? Most of BA's high-net-worth business customers are overprovided with financial services. The BA brand is more likely to appeal to economy passengers, but it is difficult to see how an airline can attain the image of reliability and safety of a Marks & Spencer or Sainsbury. We like our banks with their feet on the ground.

## Greenalls

THE sheepdog has been a useful sound during the current company reporting season. Yesterday, it was blamed for people not drinking enough.

Greenalls came up with reasonable interim figures — pre-tax profits were up by 12 per cent before exceptional — but the pub and leisure operator said that consumption in its heartland area of the North West of England was flat.

Lord Daresbury, chief executive, mused that the disappointing top-line growth might have something to do with sterling's strength affecting the manufacturers who pay the wages of his customers.

The consumer recovery, which has caused a rash of shiny theme pubs to spring up in the South of England,

## Property

SIGNS that American bankers are in expansive mode ought to be warning enough that the market is peaking. But which market? The commercial property market in London is looking hot but, as ever with bricks and mortar, the pressure points are distinct and local.

Rents are rising in the City of London, but have yet to reach the levels of the West End. Yesterday's relaunch of the NatWest Tower as the International Financial Centre ought to have removed any illusion that this is a landlord's market. NatWest is asking for top rents of £45 per square foot but in return the lease is prepared to consider

some of the building will be kitted out as serviced office suites for novice businesses; not what institutional investors call a blue-chip covenant. This is not a bad strategy — NatWest is moving towards the American mode of prop-

## Chelsea Village

THE market was a bit churlish to poor old Chelsea news of the team's success caused the share price of Chelsea Village to fall 10p to 116p.

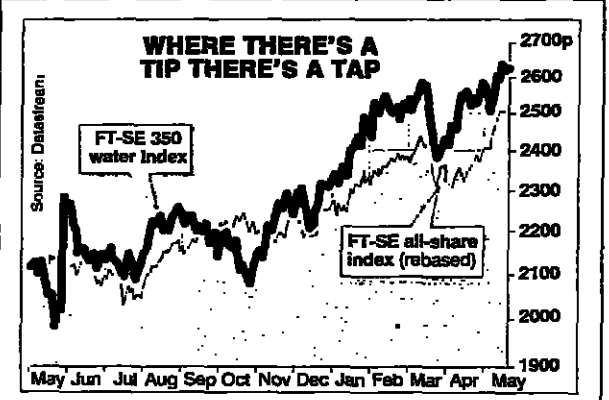
Why should this be? After all, what the sector has

shown in its short life is an almost kneejerk reaction to news — including the results of games — as was shown by the 1 per cent fall in Manchester United shares yesterday after the retirement of its missing talisman, Eric Cantona.

The best argument for yesterday's slide is concern about a massive sell-off from the estate of the late Matthew Harding, which owns 25 per cent. This has been rumoured strongly and it would not be surprising to see the Harding shares coming in dribs and drabs like the gradual cutting of Swan Management's holding in the company, which is now down to 32.9 per cent, with the sale of 402,000 shares yesterday.

What is Swan? Well it used to be called Rysaffie and few outside the company know who it is. This secrecy is a good reason why serious investors should avoid Chelsea Village.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED



WATER companies were marked lower after John Prescott, Deputy Prime Minister, unveiled his ten-point package designed to reduce water leakage. The proposals were greeted with indifference by the City. Nigel Hawkins, who covers water companies for CMAI International, the broker, said: "The proposals are long on words but short on actual detail. There is insufficient information about the water companies' coupling up substantial amounts of money."

However, Mr Hawkins conceded that the ball was now firmly in the water companies' court. "This is their last chance saloon," he said. "They need to produce significant reductions in leakage over the next year or so."

Mr Hawkins was unperturbed by the shares' mark-down after such a strong run of late. Thames Water, which loses 40 per cent of supplies through leakage, closed down 9p, at 673p. Anglian fell 6 1/2p to 692p. Hyder 16p to 837 1/2p. Severn Trent 10p to 780p. United Utilities 12p to 666 1/2p. South West Water 9 1/2p to 606p and Yorkshire 6p to 366 1/2p.

## COMMODITIES

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COCOA	
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Jul 00	1012.50
Sep 00	1012.50
Nov 00	1012.50
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Mar 01	1012.50
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Sep 31	1012.50
Nov 31	1012.50
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May 32	1012.50
Jul 32	1012.50
Sep 32	10



# And lo, the guru's word was made fleshy

Martin Waller wonders how the world would manage without so many bibles for businessmen

It is weirdly catching, the jargon and style of business strategy books. To the existing book marketing niches of crime, science fiction, the occult, whatever, there was added a few years ago a new one. Led by Tom Peters, the Stephen King of the genre, there came across the Atlantic a tide of management gurus, consultants, researchers, strategists and lecturers. Each had the Holy Grail of the business man. There were, of course, any number of Grails floating around, which must cast some doubt on their authenticity. How to be a better manager, how to cope with the changing world, and on and on. The books have crept out of specialist bookshops on to the high street, and thence to the airport stalls.

"People like evangelists," explains Cary Cooper, professor of organisational psychology at UMIST in Manchester. "In the US these kinds of books have been around for a long time. Americans are very into simplistic solutions — how you do it in five easy lessons." Hence the success of the One Minute Manager type, a thriving sub-species, for example.

But who buys these guides and who actually reads them? The books divide into four categories, and give some clues:

- How to be a better manager — largely self-help manuals, bought by nervous junior managers, presumably.
  - How to organise your company better/cope with global change/survive the downwave/profit from the upwave — bought by nervous senior managers.
  - How to sell better — for both the above.
  - The weirdies — futurology, information technology and how it will change your world, and a slew of other heterodoxies.
- Recommended: Bruce Tulgan's *Managing Generation X* (Capstone), on how to sell to/get a day's work out of the Slackers, those born between 1963 and 1981. Also, *Pandemonium* by Gibson Burrell (Sage Publications), a truly bizarre and sometimes filthy historical canter through abattoirs, satyrists and Noel Edmonds' House Party, among other things, towards a theory of organisation. And William Houston's *Through the Whirlwind* (Little

Brown), a look at historical cycles in war, disease and economics. The chapter on disease is particularly good.

The second question is how one goes about writing the more mainstream works. A business degree and attachment to a weighty-sounding (American) foundation are probably essential. Likewise a large typeface for easier reading while travelling. In terms of price, think big: never offer much change from £20.

As to content, there are four abiding principles:

- Prey on your readers' insecurities: Only the Paranoid Survive is one title. "Unless you're prepared, massive changes in the marketplace can erode the company you've built," warns the burb on another. A good gambit is along the lines of "Half of all marketing/infotech/training spending is wasted. This book shows you how to cut it today." Reader response: "Oh God, is it my half?"
- Generalise. Consider this passage, chosen

entirely at random: "The traditional definition of management has focused on control and decision-making activities. But more broadly, management's real mission is to assemble the ingredients needed for organisational success." Word count, 29, information content, virtually zero. Or this student bed-sit-style (circa 1974) offering from the fly-leaf of *The Tao of Sales*: "Like water, be fluid and supple; work in harmony with all things, not in opposition; when it's time for power, be a torrent. When it's time for reflection, a deep pool."

□ Remember that snappy slogan: The 80/20 Principle. The Shadow Pyramid. The Second Curve. The Third Policeman. (Only the first three are real management books.)

And what does the real businessman think? Jonathan Fry is chief executive of Burmah Castrol: "One doesn't want to dismiss the whole lot of management literature as rubbish... what I am very against is this business of fads which sweep through the management world. Currently it's EVA. Economic Value Added, which no one understands but everyone claims to be plugged into. Before, it was TQM. Total Quality Management. I don't read them. I don't read Cosmopolitan either, but I have a view on it."

# Lonrho's usual channels shed little light for shareholders

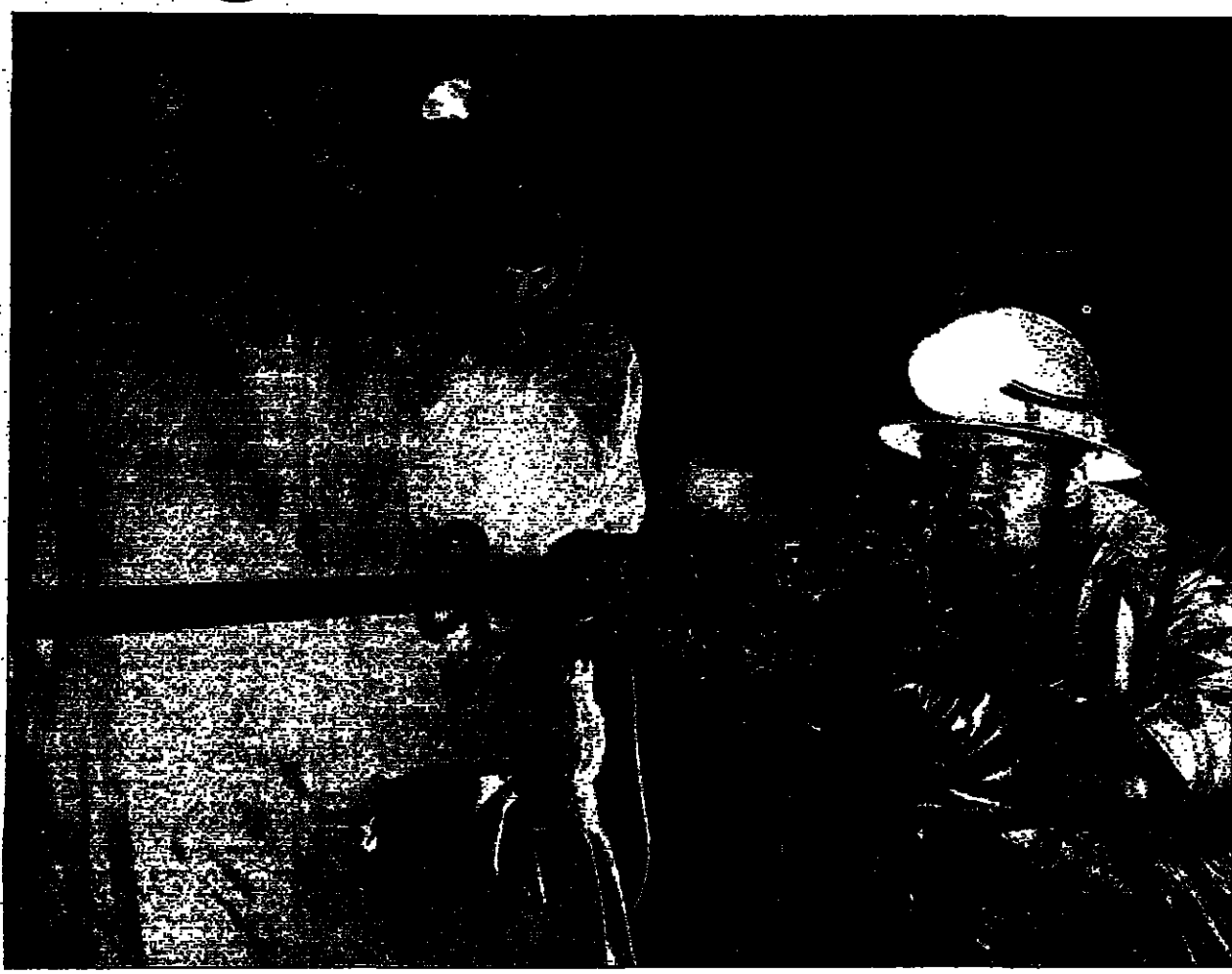
A deal with JCI would not lack complexity, says Paul Durman

You have to hand it to Lonrho. Whatever its faults, the company remains a compelling attraction to some of the world's most extraordinary businessmen. Mzi Khumalo looks just the sort of character to follow in the footsteps of the mercurial Tiny Rowland and the mysterious Dieter Bock.

Mr Khumalo spent 12 years as a political prisoner on South Africa's Robben Island, giving him plenty of opportunity to get to know Nelson Mandela. In the post-apartheid era, Mr Khumalo has become one of South Africa's fastest-rising black businessmen. Now the JCI mining group that he controls is seeking a £2 billion merger with Lonrho — a deal that will supposedly resolve one of the thorniest problems facing the UK company.

According to a leaked report — and where would Lonrho be without information appearing in other than the normal channels — a Lonrho/JCI deal will allow Anglo American Corporation, the South African mining colossus, to make an elegant cut in its 28 per cent stake in Lonrho. Anglo American, which acquired the bulk of its stake from Mr Bock, is under pressure to sell from the intransigence of the European Commission, which is worried about Anglo exerting undue influence over the world's platinum market. It is suggested that Anglo could swap its stake in Lonrho for Lonrho's shares in Ashanti Goldfields, the prized Ghanaian gold miner.

The proposed deal has some undoubted attractions. JCI's coal interests would be a good fit with Duiker, Lonrho's colliery business. The enlarged company would retain substantial gold interests. And Mr Khumalo could offer Lonrho invaluable help with his political contacts — an area perceived as a growing weakness



Lonrho and JCI's mining operations could fit well, but talks between the two groups are still at an early stage

since the company ousted Mr Rowland, its founder and driving force for 35 years.

Nick Morrell, who succeeded Mr Bock as chief executive last autumn, came up through the advertising side of *The Observer* and originally caught Mr Rowland's eye with his handling of the sale of the loss-making newspaper to the Guardian Media Group. He then ran Lonrho's UK printing and textiles businesses — virtually unknown outposts of the Lonrho empire. His knowledge of mining is hardly extensive.

The intervention from JCI injects further uncertainties into Lonrho's labyrinthine demerger, which is supposed to be completed this autumn. The sale of the Princess Hotels has dragged on for months, to the accompaniment of the usual Lonrho rumour mill.

Even the Rowland camp recognises that JCI could be a clever move. JCI is not so big that it will give rise to the competition concerns that

have hit Anglo and which scuppered Lonrho's platinum merger with Impala. The platinum arm of Gencor, the other giant of South African mining.

As ever with Lonrho, the full picture is clouded by a myriad of complexities — not least of which is the minority shareholdings that string Lonrho together with Ashanti, Anglo American and Gencor.

For example, it is far from

clear why JCI should want to see Lonrho's 41 per cent stake in Ashanti handed to Anglo. Robinn Kearney, an analyst with Barnard Jacobs Mellet, the South African firm, said JCI has been interested in Lonrho's Duiker coal business for months.

But now a full-blown merger is on the table. "Ashanti would be the most important thing for JCI to get their hands

on", she said. It is the Ashanti issue that leads many to believe that the rumoured deal has Anglo's fingerprints all over it. One observer claims that Anglo is "absolutely obsessed" with gaining control of Ashanti.

Anglo American steadfastly refuses to comment on what role it may have had brokering the talks between JCI and Lonrho. Interestingly, Ken Costa, the SBC Warburg vice-chairman who is advising JCI, has also acted as an adviser to Anglo.

JCI is understood to have initiated the talks taking place in London yesterday, and to have proposed that Lonrho acquire it via an issue of shares. JCI is valued at about £900 million, and Lonrho at about £1.1 billion.

One line being peddled yesterday is that Lonrho would be happy to surrender its interest in Ashanti because it lacks management control and a sale would improve its earnings. Such an analysis looks

extremely short-sighted. Ashanti produced almost a million ounces of gold last year, but its profits are expected to fall this year and its shares are depressed. Charles Kernot, analyst at Paribas Capital Markets, believes that Ashanti's present market value of about £875 million represents barely half its true worth, which he puts at £1.7 billion. Mr Kernot said Ashanti will shortly start production from two new gold mines, leading to a 40 per cent jump in output by 1999. Accordingly, Mr Kernot believes that Anglo will have to offer Lonrho a substantial amount of cash to tempt it to part with Ashanti.

Even if Lonrho and Anglo were to agree on price, the Ghanaian Government could prove a stumbling block. Ghana was thought to be reluctant to see control of Ashanti and its Obuasi mine pass to Anglo American. Although it is now suggested that this was only an impression fostered by Mr Rowland and his acolytes, Lonrho investors will learn the truth only when there is a firm proposal for consideration.

The difficulties of pricing JCI will be exacerbated by Lonrho's poorly rated paper. Battered by the timing and manner of Mr Bock's sale to Anglo, Lonrho trades at a much greater discount to its assets than does JCI.

Nor are Gencor and Impala completely out of the picture. While the South African company is still mounting a legal challenge to the European Commission's right to block the proposed platinum merger, Impala has pre-emption rights that could complicate a Lonrho/JCI merger. Impala, which is 46.5 per cent owned by Gencor, owns 27 per cent of Lonrho Platinum and has the first option to buy Lonrho's 73 per cent should there be a change in control. Once again, whether or not Gencor will be able to stick its own in will only become clear when a detailed deal emerges.

Lonrho was keen yesterday to emphasise that its talks with JCI are still at a preliminary stage. If it does decide to go ahead, it is hard to believe that it could resolve all the difficulties and still stick to its demerger timetable. It remains harder to say exactly what, in 12 months' time, Lonrho will look like, be called or who will be running it.



Rowland: ousted chief



Morrell: Bock's successor

# Prime time

FAREWELL the NatWest Tower, and a welcome to The International Finance Centre, which is charging some £45 a square foot for the best office space in the City. At that price only the biggest villains will be able to afford it, so expect an immediate influx of lawyers, accountants and the odd financial PR firm. Says David Edmunds, managing director of group central services at NatWest, which continues to own the building: "We're getting back towards the top rental levels of the late 1980s" — a time when

some City firms were prepared to pay as much as £55 a square foot, and we all know what happened next.

But what of the new, rather dull name? The choice was limited — City Tower and Millennium Tower are already taken. "We had a small team of special advisers, people from Weatherall Green & Smith and Richard Ellis, and anybody who could put in an innovative and imaginative solution was invited to throw it in," says Edmunds. And then you threw them out again? "Yes, I did," he replies cheerfully.



asked. Oh, about 1.63 in the market, they replied. "No, where's Stirling? I'm on the wrong train. I'm in Edinburgh." The same Turner, on a flight to France not long before, left his travel documents on a food tray, necessitating a hasty search of the aircraft's bins. Chris, have you ever thought of spending more time in the office?

## Fit for a launch

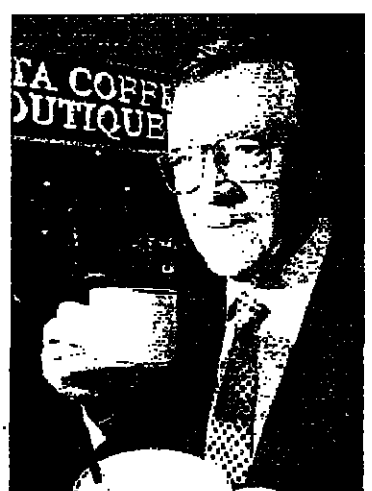
NOW it can be told: A couple of months before the election new Labour was casting around for a room imposing enough to house the internal launch of its official manifesto. The party's media machine was based at Millbank Tower, and a mere 20 storeys above this was the woodlined Vickers boardroom. Perfect, except that Vickers was not keen to be quite so closely associated with all this. Some hurried and temporary redecoration was needed. Easy enough to unscrew the Vickers logo. But coverings had to be hung over the distinctive curved wall, which bears wooden reliefs of the ships the company once built, and a nautical bell, also harking back to its shipbuilding traditions, was removed. I am told that in the publicity shots handed out by Labour the room is just recognisable — if you know what you are looking for.

## Hourly rate

THE various unions and new Labour are dickering over the minimum

wage, and whether it should be £4.26 an hour, £4.42 or any other figure plucked out of the air. Perhaps they should consult the unofficial new boss of the Low Pay Commission, who everyone seems to have decided will be Peter Jarvis when he steps down as chief executive at Whitebread on June 2. Whitebread's report and accounts arrive, and they show that last year he earned £98,794 last year, including £161,502 in performance-related pay — or, assuming Jarvis puts in a 60-hour week like the Trojan he is and only takes a fortnight holiday, a few pence less than £200 an hour. Not a figure that has yet featured in the debate.

MARTIN WALLER



Peter Jarvis is widely tipped to head the Low Pay Commission

# Bank needs to clarify its approach to inflation

We will soon have an independent Bank of England charged with controlling inflation. Interest rates will be set by a panel of experts rather than the Chancellor. What sort of performance can we expect and how will we know whether the Bank is doing its job? Mr Brown has said he will use the inflation target adopted by the Conservative Government. But this took two different forms. The Government talked of a target of 2.5 per cent or less, but much of its behaviour suggested that 2.5 per cent a year was a target and not an upper limit. These two have different implications because there is a large unpredictable component in any economy. If the Bank aims for 2.5 per cent a year, it will find that inflation is sometimes higher and sometimes lower than its target. An inflation rate of 3 per cent a year now and then would not mean that the Bank had failed. It could simply mean that it had aimed at 2.5 per cent and been blown off course by events that no one could have foreseen.

To aim for 2.5 per cent or less is quite different. Most people would say this target means that inflation should not rise above 2.5 per cent, or only infrequently. If the Bank's target is in this form, the prudent thing is to aim for a much lower figure, say 1.5 per cent, allowing a margin for error.

Having sorted this out, how should the policy actually function? At present, the target is always for the inflation rate in two years' time, because it is difficult to influence inflation less far ahead than that. One difficulty of this approach is that forecasts are bound to vary. Moreover, there is the risk that the panel may place too much weight on current trends as a guide to the future and ignore the impact of policy changes that have already been made. This in turn could mean that excessive interest rate changes are made so that, far from stabilising the economy, interest-rate policy becomes destabilising.

An alternative system, or at least a starting point, would be to derive a rule for setting the interest rate taking into account the current state of the economy. For example, it might be sensible to raise the interest rate by 1½ to 2 percentage points for each percentage point increase in the actual rate of inflation.

with a bit extra if inflation is above target and a bit less if it is below. The policy rule could include economic growth and other "real variables" either on the argument that they also matter or because they are leading indicators of inflation. Some people, no doubt including some members of the new monetary policy committee, will object that such rules leave no room for judgment. But this is what makes them a good reference point.

Work at the National Institute using its economic model suggests that such a system with an inflation target of 2.5 per cent will keep inflation between 1 and 4 per cent for about three years out of four. So we should expect considerable variability in the inflation rate with the new regime. No doubt in the spells in which it exceeds 4 per cent there will be plenty of commentators saying the committee should be sacked for not doing its job, when it will have simply been unlucky: in spells of low inflation old Labour will complain that things were better with Kenneth Clarke in charge. These are simply the vagaries of the economic weather.

A study by the International Monetary Fund suggests that the variability of inflation can be reduced if interest rates are set with reference not only to current inflation, but also in the light of expected future inflation, on the assumption that the best forecast available is used. And this is the difficulty. Whatever the forecasting skills brought to the panel, there is a real risk that the benefits gained by correct anticipation of future trends may be more than offset by the disruption caused when the committee is mistaken.

At least this makes the next step clear. In the interests of open government, the Bank should publish details of the sort of variability it expects in the inflation rate with various policy structures and rules, including the benefits it expects to gain from using judgment. If nothing else, it will give us a standard for assessing the performance of the new arrangements.

ANDREW BLAKE AND MARTIN WEALE  
Andrew Blake is a Research Fellow and Martin Weale is Director of the National Institute of Economic and Social Research.

# UP YOUR INTEREST RATE

property n. Brit. 1 leaf tea served from a silver pot (usu. Earl Grey, English Breakfast etc.) 2 something owned: a possession, esp. real estate.

leasehold n. & adj. 1 judo grip in which an opponent is partly restrained (half lease) or completely restrained (full lease) 2 the holding of property.

tenants n. 1 mythical insects reputed to have the strength of several men 2 a gathering of your uncles' wives (best avoided) 3 persons holding real property by private ownership.

key money n. 1 the cost of harbouring one's yacht 2 expenses incurred in changing locks (usu. after burglary) 3 premium paid by an incoming tenant for premises.

estate n. 1 large four wheeled container for children, dogs, green wellies etc (usu. Volvo, Merc etc) 2 person's collective assets and liabilities 3 landed property.

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"Champagne? I'm afraid all the cabin crew have drunk it, sir"

● THE sometimes autocratic head of Chrysalis Group was determined when he faced the City with his interim figures on Friday that analysts would be properly impressed with the Gold Sony Award just won by Heart 106.2, his London radio station. So Chris Wright's chauffeur Annie was sent back to west London to pick the thing up. She arrived back distraught, clutching a trophy now in three constituent pieces. In her hurry she had dropped it. I am assured she is still allowed near his new Bentley.

## Way out West

THE joint venture to run an automated private client dealing service be-

tween Kleinwort Benson and Winterflood Securities, owned by Close Brothers, is not the first venture between the families Benson and Close. In 1875 the Closes bought 3,000 acres of prairie in Iowa at the knockdown price of \$3.50 an acre because its original inhabitants, some Native American Indians and a few million swarming grasshoppers, still felt they had a use for it. The Bensons provided some capital and Close, Benson & Co was set up. By the time the partnership was dissolved, in 1884, it had 270,000 acres of land under management.

● CHRIS TURNER, a derivatives salesman at SBC Warburg and in the running for most accident-prone man in the City, was on a trip to Scotland last week. He rang into his office in a bit of a state. "Where's sterling?" he



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## ■ OPERA

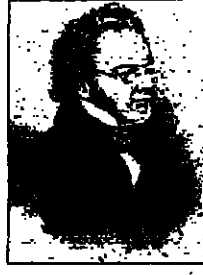
Musical values triumph as Glyndebourne's season opens with Puccini's *Manon Lescaut*



## ■ MUSIC 1

Two nights of Philip Glass at the Festival Hall make for delicious punters and sad critics

## THE TIMES ARTS



## ■ MUSIC 2

Schubert at the double: Building a Library surveys recordings of the Piano Duets



## ■ JAZZ

At the Barbican the exuberant Carla Bley makes the most of a distinguished line-up of soloists

OPERA: John Eliot Gardiner's South Downs debut makes Rodney Milnes long for an entire Puccini cycle from him

# Tough and tender players

The strengths of Puccini's early opera (1893) — his third, predating *La Bohème* — are almost entirely musical, and score those of Glyndebourne's new production. Everything that John Eliot Gardiner promised in his interview on this page last week he delivered. The coruscating brilliance of sound in the opening bars promised an evening of rare orchestral pleasure: crisp, disciplined textures through which every strand of musical thought emerged, and playing of rare, communal virtuosity from the London Philharmonic Orchestra that took your breath away.

The string sound was lean, muscular and light on vibrato, lending the music a toughness not always immediately apparent in Brand-X readings; the occasional rather blatant reminiscence of a Big Tune — comparatively rare in *Manon Lescaut* — was given an astringency that banished, to use Gardiner's own word, slop. Mere sentiment was through-out replaced with genuine tenderness and compassion. Let that not suggest coldness: the hushed, silky string playing at the lovers' first meeting would satisfy the most demanding hedonist, and the little harmonic side-slip in the heroine's *In quelle trine morbide* was achieved with near-indescent sensuousness. And the cleanliness of texture allowed Gardiner to

Manon Lescaut  
Glyndebourne

relish to the full the wide range of colour in the instrumentation: with trumpets yapping away under Geronte in the second-act finale, we were suddenly in the world of Kurt Weill. In a word, Gardiner's reading was an ear-opener: the prospect of him leading a Puccini cycle at Glyndebourne may be far-fetched, but it would certainly have me booking season tickets.

The opera's dramaturgy is decidedly wonky — up to a dozen hands were involved in the anonymous libretto — mainly because all concerned were anxious to avoid being accused of copying Massenet's earlier setting of Prévost's story. The suppression of the scene showing the lovers living in blissful sin means that the Manon of Puccini's second act is a different character from the one we meet in the first: thereafter she is a standard Puccini victim figure. There's not a lot a director can do to put flesh on these bones. Indeed, there are few surprises in the production by the Graham Vick/Richard Hudson team: elegant naturalistic direction of singers in beautifully designed (and made) traditional costumes against spare, abstract sets, with ochre replacing the grey-blue of their *Onegni*. Tradition loomed a

little too large in the assembly of freaks and decadents in Manon's salon, and in the roll-call of "fallen" women: surely some degree of contemporary perspective could be brought to each episode? And is Hudson's antiseptic decor quite right for Puccini's veristic vignettes? Or for the squalor of the subject matter? Never mind, it's all terribly pretty.

The young Romanian soprano Adina Năntescu sings Manon extremely beautifully — her voice is luscious and warm throughout the range — but she is as yet impetuous on stage and her heroine remained a somewhat shadowy figure. Traditionally, a heavier tenor than Patrick Dennenon is cast as Des Grieux. His tone is bronzed rather than brilliant, but he sings musically and accurately, and Gardiner's canny accompaniment of his big third-act outburst helped to make it work. He is also a good actor, making the man entirely credible.

Antonello Palombi was a ringingly Italianate student Edmondo, one who could well have his sights on Des Grieux before long, and Paolo Montarsolo made a memorable Geronte, plainly too old to cut the mustard any more — which must be why everyone entering the boudoir makes a point of inspecting the bed-linen. The chorus was quite marvelous. Channel 4 and Radio 3 simultaneously broadcast the production on May 31.



In luscious voice: young Romanian soprano Adina Năntescu brought beautiful singing to the role of Manon, but an impassive stage presence

CONCERTS: Maximum Minimalism poses questions on the South Bank; a host of Catherines in Baroque mood

Philip Glass likes his paragon figures. He likes them so much that they dominate his entire output. He is not alone in this but, unlike Steve Reich, his tonality is also increasingly traditional, uncharacterised. So what are we left with? Not Minimalism now, apparently, but Maximalism. Making the most of minimal material? Or spinning out music of minimal interest for maximum time?

Another definition has been "systems music", a better word for what the dedicated members of the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields were locked into on Thursday night. Systems music is surely better played by machines, as the following night's line-up with the Philip Glass Ensemble proved — or at least less painful to watch.

Both works on Thursday, Act II from *Satagraha* and the *Heroes Symphony*, were written to be staged and needed that extra dimension. The enthusiasm of the Crouch Hill Chorus kept the attention through swaths of music on which all Glass's experience of

## Out of his system

Philip Glass  
Festival Hall

Indian and African music and his rich intellectual life seem to have left no trace.

The *Heroes Symphony* like the *Low*, was inspired by the David Bowie-Brian Eno album of the same name but seems to have neutralised the elements that gave it guts: it is raw energy, the rasping voice of Bowie, a sense of defiant despair. It was known as an avant-garde album, and it was in the pop world. What Glass has created is synthetic, well meaning and uses the blandest of harmonies and orchestrations. The rousing pop anthem *Heroes* is enas-

lated to a series of polite descending chords; the syncopations in *Sons of the Silent Age* are rendered awkwardly on French horns. The following night in *The Upper Room*, *The Photographer*, *Music in Similar Motion* passed by in similar motion indeed.

The high points were, not surprisingly, from Glass's two most successful operas, *Einstein on the Beach* and *Akhmatov*. The combination of fast-driven machine sound and the very human voice of a free tenor saxophone solo in *The Building* (from *Einstein*) gave this music a fundamental reason d'être hard to find in the other pieces. The Funeral Music from *Akhmatov*, too, is invigorating: lively drum rhythms, crashing dissonant chords in the bass, a tonality of its own, a real sense of ritual theatre rising to an exhilarating climax. The audience gave standing ovations on both nights: anyone thinking of staging *Akhmatov* again in this country could be sure of a sell-out.

HELEN WALLACE

Far from being any form of torture, the Catherine Wheel which spun round at the Wigmore on Friday was a source of delight. If it had ever occurred to you that the Baroque music world was peopled with Catherines, then this was the vindication. No fewer than 16 of them assembled to present an enriching programme in aid of Jessie's Fund, an admirable charity that exists to help sick children through the therapeutic use of music.

Violinist Catherine Mackintosh led the way: with most of the others on stage, and Katharina Spreckelsen and Catherine Latham — playing oboes, she gave bright, stage-like direction to lively string playing which took positive pleasure in Handel's mercurial switches before forming an effortlessly oscillating undertow of slow-moving harmonies for the large oboe aria. Felix Warnock may have been a nominal spoke in the wheel, but his elegant bassoon playing made him considerably more than the evening's token male.

## What Katy did

The Catherine Wheel  
Wigmore Hall

Then came two short Trios, one of them called *La Cattarina* by the German-born composer Tarquinio Merulo. Capricious little phrases chased each other from one violin (Catherine Martin) to another (Kati Debetzeni). Katharine May, the evening's feisty and urbane harpsichordist, and Catherine Finnis, cello, then took the lead in a *Ciaccona* whose ground bass is teasingly familiar from Monteverdi's madrigal, *Zefiro, torna*. Telemann and Biber faced

each other across the interval — and in two rare and beguiling pairings of instruments. Telemann's *Concerto in E minor* is poised on a pivot-point in woodwind history: the new *flauto traverso* (flute, Katy Bircher) and the older *flauto dolce* (recorder, Catherine Latham) duet together in supple sequences and in a lip-kissing finale. The equally seductive voices of two violas d'amore (Catherine Mackintosh and Katharine McGillivray) are exploited with cunning and imagination in Biber's *Partita No 7*, with its French suite of movements and final noble set of variations.

Every Catherine. Kathryn, Kate and Katharina gathered once again for a final epiphany, Bach's *Wedding Cantata*, *Weichet nur, betrübte Schatten*. Soprano Catherine Bott blew the shadows and frosty winds away; harpsichord provided her with Phoebe's swift steeds; and solo violin, oboe and bassoon led on the final dance.

HILARY FINCH

A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

### SCHUBERT PIANO DUETS

Reviewed by  
Stephen Plaistow

NO WONDER Schubert has been called the patron saint of piano duetists. In the last years of his life he enriched the medium with a range of compositions, from dances to the Grand Duo in C. Accounts of the social gatherings in which he shared these works among friends may have reinforced impressions of them as minor, but they are characteristic manifestations of genius.

The compositions for four hands from 1828 are unsurpassed by anything he composed in that productive final year. Among them, the Fantasy in F minor (D940) has had plenty of recordings but few get beyond a generalised projection of atmosphere. Its drama and expressive charge call for a wide range of sound and gesture, and the most successful recordings tend to be those by ad hoc partnerships of fine solo pianists, rather than devoted practitioners of duets working on a more domestic scale. The 1984 Sony recording by Murray Perahia and Radu Lupu is a classic.

Recently Lupu has partnered Daniel Barenboim in the Grand Duo and the delightful *Variations in A flat*.



(Teldec). The finale of the Duo isn't pacy enough but the excellent playing elsewhere banishes thoughts of the work as a symphony in disguise.

For a complete set of the duets a recommendation would be Yvonne Tal and Andreas Groethuysen, who offer seven CDs in a format of four volumes available separately (Sony). For a nearly complete tally of the duets from 1824 on, distributed over two double-albums, there is perhaps better value for money from Christoph Eschenbach and Justus Frantz whose refinement of sound and character are blessings in a medium which can be noisy. They play the works of Schubert's last year as they should be: as the greatest chamber music. The recordings are reissues and are available from next month (EMI CZS 5 69764-2 and CZS 5 69770-2, £15.99 each).

● To order the recommended recording, with free delivery, please send a cheque payable to The Times Music Shop to FREEPOST, SCO681, Forbes, IV36 0BR or phone 0345 023 498; e-mail: music@the-times.co.uk

● Next Saturday on Radio 3 (9am): A Handel opera survey

## Blaring her soul

### JAZZ

Carla Bley  
Barbican Hall

and drummer Dennis Mackrel, remained intact, as did the music. What also endured — less auspiciously — was the question as to the validity of her final statement.

Devoting the first half of her concert largely to what she calls "fancy chamber music" inevitably focused attention purely on Bley's compositional acumen, and the lightweight, drifting quality of her writing for members of the classical ensemble Opus 20 rendered her big band's arrival in the second half particularly welcome.

As soon as Sheppard's tenor began to wrestle with the inviting changes of *Setting Calvin's Waltz*, the proceedings picked up, and seldom flagged thereafter. Sheppard is the chief vehicle for the urgently bustling aspects of Bley's music, and Puschig's wounded alto sound, too, was tellingly exploited by Bley, particularly in *Carl Ruggles's Exaltation*.

It was the brass players Barker and Valente, however, who hit the evening's keynote. Along with just the right amount of exuberant flair,

Barker brought poise and elegance to his blazing solos. Valente, though, truly personified Bley's distinctive brand of laid-back, earnestly pockish eccentricity with an extraordinary display of rich, sand-blasting trombone. Bley's art may indeed reside in the skilful deployment of her musicians rather than in the material she gives them.

CHRIS PARKER

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## Carmen



"Bizet"

IN THE "hymn sheet" that accompanies her latest recording, *The Carla Bley Big Band Goes to Church*, the Californian composer asks wryly: "Why would anyone want to listen to almost 70 minutes of blaring big-band music?" Then she answers her own question: "Probably because I was able to get my four special soloists again. And my rhythm section. The music would be nothing without these two intact elements."

For her nine-date Contemporary Music Network UK tour, along with three of those essential soloists — Italian trombonist Gary Valente, Austrian alto player Wolfgang Puschig and British tenorist Andy Sheppard — Bley drew on the extraordinary strength in depth of her existing brass section to substitute Guy Barker for the original incumbent, American trumpeter Lay Soloff. The rhythm section, bassist Steve Swallow

and drummer Dennis Mackrel, remained intact, as did the music. What also endured — less auspiciously — was the question as to the validity of her final statement.

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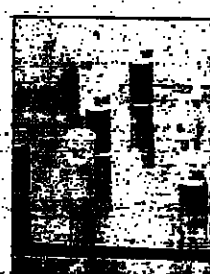
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■ VISUAL ART 1

The Swinging Sixties in Britain and France are recalled at the Brighton Festival



■ VISUAL ART 2

Out of the ordinary: a posthumous show for Jeff Luke finds excitement in the everyday

THE TIMES ARTS



■ DANCE

Urban stress is the motor that powers Siobhan Davies's impressive new work, *Bank*



■ THEATRE

The Rodney Ackland revival continues with a Chichester staging of his *After October*

VISUAL ART: Richard Cork takes a cool look at the Sixties through the psychedelic haze of a south coast exhibition

# Swinging back the pendulum

It is a pleasure to see a curator of the calibre of Richard Cork, who has been at the helm of the Tate since 1992, looking at the Sixties. The year is 1965, and both of them are working their new-found celebrity. Deneuve leans towards Bailey, smiling as she relishes their very own entente cordiale. But he directs his large eyes outwards, appraising the photographer with a watchful, professional gaze.

But the expression sums up the supreme self-consciousness of the period, when everyone appeared to do everything in front of a camera. He knew the defining power of the lens, and its effervescent images play a central role throughout the *Les Sixties* exhibition at Brighton Museum and Art Gallery. But Deneuve's cool presence reminds us that France underwent a similar revolution. If our current curiosity about swinging London seems insatiable, we often overlook the upheavals that galvanised Paris during the same seismic period.

How can this restless, noisy and anarchic era be conveyed in three rooms of a seate 19th-century municipal building, where even the most unruly manifestations of the "counter-culture" have been carefully preserved, classified and placed on orderly display? Strict curatorial standards are upheld here, above all in the notice next to Peter Sedgley's whirling, kinetic disc-sculpture. "The ultra-violet lights on this work have been switched off," it explains, "to prevent fading of other art works in this gallery."

Despite inevitable restrictions, though, *Les Sixties* does succeed in taking the pulse of its feverish subject. The organisers, David Alan Mellor and Laurent Gervereau, take an all-embracing view. Paintings and sculpture are included, often making a powerful contribution to the show. But *Les Sixties* aims at placing works of art in the widest possible social context.

"Consumer Culture" is the opening theme. It moves from the tourist banality of a 1962 "ICI Londres" window display at Bon Marché in Paris to the austere geometry of a cream-wool dress by Courrèges. Allen Jones's trashy Pop art is included, but so are Joe O'Reilly's photographs of Peter Blake, David Hockney and their contemporaries posing like statues on plinths outside their exhibition at the 1963 Paris Biennale.

Playfulness abounds, in the silliness of Bernard Rancillac's outrageous *Elephant Armchair* and the cleverness of Clive Barker's wittily simulated *French Fancies* in painted bronze. But the darker side of the Sixties soon becomes visible as well. J.G. Ballard's eight black-and-white photographs of a crashed Ford Zephyr look ominous, even if its shattered windscreen reveals no trace of the obsessed couple erotically aroused by car crashes in his related fiction.

Violence dominates the second section, where a dozen stills from Antonioni's *Blow Up* concentrate on the most sinister part of the film. Successive frames show the young Vanessa Redgrave luring a middle-

Women were often treated with arrogance and contempt in the cold camera studios

aged man into a deserted park, embracing him and then moving away as a gun emerges from the bushes.

The Sixties' blatant preoccupation with sex dominates the space devoted to "A Man's World". Ralph Steadman turns one of his lacerating New London Cries into a callous fashion photographer, with phallic zoom-lenses bulging from his crotch. Without bothering to look at the mascara-smeared model picking her nose behind him, he snarls: "I said I'm going to put your face in *Vogue*, you stupid old cow!"

Women were often treated with arrogance and contempt in the cold, white, camera-packed studios of the period. Even a goddess as exalted as Bardot appears with a target-like circle stamped on her screen-dot face in Gerald Laing's sinister painting. Christine Keeler found herself adored and deplored, usually at the same time. In Geoffrey Davien's plaster bust, ominously nicknamed a "sculptoon", she looks at once mesmerising and demonic.

The few women artists who won prominence did their best to offer an alternative view. Jann Haworth's

brazen mixed-media sculpture of a *Snake Lady* looks ferocious, as the serpent coils its way round her ample feathered body. But she seems trapped as well, and a similar ambiguity runs through Pauline Boty's work. Tragically short-lived, she knew precisely how to pose like an archetypal Sixties "chick" for Michael Ward's photograph.

Sometimes the Anglo-French vantage of the show yields unexpected results. Among the over-familiar Beatlemania ephemera, we suddenly find a poster advertising the group's first feature film under the bizarre title *4 Garçons Dans Le Vent*. At the time, the Fab Four were photographed as harmlessly chuckling Liverpudlian lads. But on occasion the boyish masks slip. Robert Whitaker's 1966 album cover dressed the group as white-coated butchers, brandishing headless dolls and cradling raw meat as they grin mirthlessly. The images caused such offence in America that they were withdrawn. But Martin Sharp neatly caught the group's ambivalent attitude in a painted photograph, where Lennon's face is transformed into a Union Jack. What initially looks like cheery patriotism ends up resembling a gag, preventing him from voicing the full extent of his dissent.

The French were inclined to a more agit-prop approach. Erro's 1968 painting, *Intérieur Américain* no. 4, shows square-jawed freedom fighters in scarlet uniforms advancing on an empty, bijou bedroom. The Reds popped up everywhere as the decade came to a close. At the 1969 Salon de la Jeune Peinture in Paris, attention was seized by the incensed artists who produced *La Salle Rouge pour le Vietnam*. But the most exuberant use of this politically charged colour occurs in Henri Cueco's *L'Université*, a 1968 canvas where striped and naked students punch the air or make gravity-defying leaps in front of an impersonal, authoritarian campus building.

It seems strident compared with the gentler, more amateur flower-power images produced in London, when Hornsey School of Art was transformed into a crucible of rebellion in the very same year. Education Not Intimidation and "Tomorrow Starts Now" were the slogans they proclaimed, but the



Homage to weird pop: *The Crazy World of Arthur Brown* by Michael English and Nigel Weymouth

ever more disastrous war in Vietnam provided a sharper focus for anger on both sides of the Channel. In London, Lewis Morley took a campaigning shot of Tariq Ali and Vanessa Redgrave united in their condemnation of the conflict. But they look too aware of their photogenic status as banner-brandishing

stars when set beside an anonymous French poster. Produced in Paris at the very zenith of revolutionary Gallic zeal, it offers an aerial view of the Champs Elysées bursting with demonstrators on the march. From one end to the other, the entire avenue is dense with resolute, unstoppable bodies. Their enthusi-

asm may seem naively utopian today, when ideological fervour has given way to widespread scepticism. But their mass determination to have faith in the future still seems moving, and makes our own lack of optimism all the more sad.

Les Sixties is at Brighton Museum and Art Gallery (01273 240400) until June 29

## AROUND THE GALLERIES

MELISSA FELDMAN, the curator of *Natural Habitat*, has provided a generous brief and a floor each to three artists from abroad. Patrick Van Caekenbergh plays between flat and formed, cut out and actual, to make menageries of strangeness. It is an atmosphere to be read rather than felt, a room that turns out to have no real three-dimensional meaning. Upstairs Paul McCarthy seems to insist on visitors dressing themselves up as clowns in the wooden changing space provided. Upstairs again, enticing mermaid music calls. The enchantress, the artist Markko Mori dressed in a blue space outfit, plays with a crystal ball in an airport concourse. In this repeated video footage she beckons with elfin silliness. *Natural Habitat, The Tannery, 57 Bernondsey Street, London SE1 (0171-234 0587), until June 1*

PHOTOGRAPHS of dark green translucent material floating against a red ground, like details from a Renaissance Venetian painting, are collaged together to make up a rich mosaic. Liz Ridelal may now scale up her individual pictures — yet they are all taken, as usual, in a simple photo booth. At the *Economist* offices, she pins her larger format *Arras* series simply to the wall in the highly-charged entrance area, but it is still difficult to show work here.

Fast the information desk, through the revolving door, outside Julian Opie has stacked a number of simple casts of tombstones, effectively causing a moment of displacement: a visual missed beat. Liz Ridelal and Julian Opie at the *Economist*, organised by the Contemporary Art Society, The Economist, 25 St James's Street, London SW1 (0171-830 7105), until June 22

JEFF LUKE, who died in 1995 aged only 33, must have spent a lot of time on a kind of conceptual autopilot. This exhibition brings together many examples of his work. It is all dependent on display. Along a wall are 800 plastic bags, each containing a strange, apparently useful element.

Some 300 phials, each holding a fluid from kitchen, garage or bathroom, make a rainbow range across a shelf. Handles, levers, sticks, racks and tubes, this time much larger in scale, cover the floor. Each piece has been assembled in the mock language of the jeweller, handyman or shop fitter. The gap between the art object and its function is well expressed.

Jeff Luke, *Cubitt Gallery, 2 Caledonia Street, London N1 (0171-278 8226), until June 8*

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

SACHA CRADDOCK

## Warming to a tangy family stew

### THEATRE

After October  
Minerva, Chichester

a dramatist with an eye for the clutter and chaos of English Bohemianism.

At first you may feel the piece is Chekhovian in the wrong sense. There is a lack of tension and momentum as a not-too-trenchantly observed family and its hangers-on drift about a big, shambaling flat in what seems to be Hampstead, 1936. While Nick Waring's Clive struggles in the corner to finish writing the West End play that will save the clan from the bailiffs, Dorothy Tutin's Rhoda, his retired-actress mother, absently vacuums the frayed carpet. Bring on his two sisters, one trailing her adulterous employer, the other the French husband she acquired while working as a hostess in a bar; add the depressive girl Clive loves and

the megalomaniac poet he has encouraged; and you have the kind of tangy human stew Ackland enjoyed.

The stew gradually warmed up on the first night, so that I suddenly realised that a cast that had been leaving me cold was giving me genuine pleasure. Some of the characters could be more thoroughly explored. Moreover, the play's shape is a bit predictable.

Yet Clive's disappointment at the poor reviews of his big first night leads to surprises, including a hilarious scene in which he phones a London critic at dawn, screams that he is a bleary moon about to die of leprosy; and then finds he has the wrong number. Keith Baxter's fine production, with Tutin muddleheadedly exuding the spirit of never-say-die, leaves you feeling that this slovenly, troubled, affectionate crew will somehow blunder and bumble through. Ackland was only 28 when he wrote the play, but had already found his voice; and if you miss that voice at Chichester, you can and should catch it at Greenwich next month.

## Private painted pictures

Siobhan Davies  
Gardner Arts Centre

you can imagine a kind of urban stress rising from the crowding discomfort of their overpopulated environment. The patterns of *Bank* may be complex, but the immediacy of its language is readily discernible.

Despite the creative wealth of her back catalogue, Davies is not one for revisiting old territory. There has to be a good reason to revive a work and in the case of *White Man Sleeps*, the other half of her Brighton Festival double bill, the spur was the score.

When Davies choreo-

graphed *White Man Sleeps* in 1998, she used Kevin Volans's string quartet of the same name. Nine years later, she has turned to the composer's earlier arrangement of *White Man Sleeps*, scored for two harpsichords, viola da gamba and percussion. It is more abrasive and pungent than the string arrangement, and it gives Davies's choreography even more heft and heart.

She has reworked segments of her original, although the bulk of it remains unchanged. Unlike the more unsettling *Bank*, *White Man Sleeps* seduces its audience with an impulsive sensuality. There is a hedonistic delight in the physicality of Davies's strong-minded dancers, as if they are plunging into a pool of warm, sweetly scented water. It looks a pleasure to dance; it's certainly a pleasure to watch.

The Siobhan Davies Company is at the Arts Theatre, Cambridge, on May 30 and 31, and at the Crucible in Sheffield on June 3 and 4.

DEBRA CRAINE

TWENTY years ago the critic John Spurling wrote that "there is not an English playwright this century more certain of being understood and loved by posterity than Rodney Ackland". At the time that seemed a wild claim, for not even Terence Rattigan had yet escaped the obituary into which a generation of dramatists had been flung by Osborne and the Royal Court realists. But now that Ackland is safely dead, it is beginning to look as if Spurling's prophecy was not so preposterous.

The Orange Tree's revival of *The Dark River* in 1990 left me feeling that, yes, Ackland had written sensitively of the insular English during the Spanish Civil War, but that his play was not the "Chekhovian" masterpiece some wished to believe. But in 1995 there was general enthusiasm for the National's production of *Absolute Hell*, his portrait of soaks and barflies in the louche Soho of 1945. And *After October* confirms that we have indeed been overlooking

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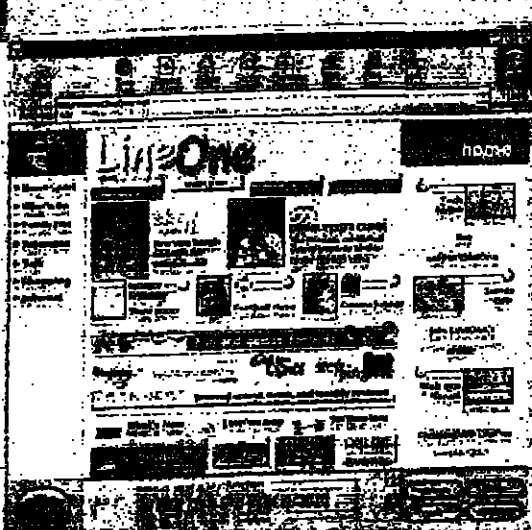
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## CHOICE 1

**Pinchas Zukerman conducts and plays music by the Bach family**

VENUE: Tonight at the Barbican Centre, London



## CHOICE 2

**Maurizio Pollini continues his survey of the Beethoven piano sonatas**

VENUE: Tonight at the Festival Hall, London

## THE TIMES ARTS



## CHOICE 3

**Skylight, by David Hare, is brought to Coventry by the National Theatre**

VENUE: From tonight at the Warwick Arts Centre



## POP

**Country man: Garth Brooks gives Dublin the only European concerts on his current tour**

POP: Nashville's slickest wows the faithful in Dublin; pop's most tortured ego lands in London

## Straight from the hat

Garth Brooks  
Croke Park, Dublin

To his critics, Garth Brooks is the Man They Love To Hate, the blandest of superstars who, unlike thoroughbred country legends such as Hank Williams, Johnny Cash or Gram Parsons, has nothing of the night in him. His music, they say, is all that is rotten in the state of Nashville: a hatful of hollow, signifying nothing.

To his fans — and there are considerably more of those — he is an all-American hero for the 1990s. A baseball, basketball and athletics fanatic at school, Brooks is still highly competitive. Yet he is also a devoted family man who lovingly introduces his wife on stage and poignantly dedicates a song to his sick mother. He is the Oklahoma kid, the country singer it is OK to like, the rock star you can take home to meet your parents.

Indeed a cursory scan of the capacity 40,000-strong crowd in Croke Park suggests that your parents were actually at this gig, wearing stints, singing along to all the hits, holding their lighters aloft for the ballads and dutifully joining in the Mexican wave.

This was truly an all-gigs show. From teenagers grasping a momentary respite from the pressures of exams to spinsters skipping their regular Friday night bingo, one and all sang along — to songs about the rodeo, the honky tonks, their *Friends in Low Places*...

What to make of the Brooks phenomenon? After all, he sells out football stadiums quicker than Michael Schumacher changes tyres. He is the second biggest-selling artist in America (after the Beatles), shifting 62 million albums in eight years.

And his three-night stint in this stadium, the mecca of Gaelic games enthusiasts, saw 120,000 people walk through the turnstiles — a record for a performer in this country.

These were the only European dates on his current tour, and given that they were sandwiched between a mammoth live itinerary in America, they testify to the special relationship that Ireland has forged with Brooks in particular and with country music in general.

Abandoning the huge stage for a platform bang in the middle of his devoted followers, Brooks sang the opening verse of his homage to Hibernia — entitled *Ireland* — unaccompanied; his voice mimicking the cadences of traditional Irish folk song. A touching gesture of solidarity or a load of old blarney? A genuine attempt to bond with his fans or a PR stunt that would make Peter Mandelson blush? Unfortunately, at this moment, Brooks' training as a marketing executive becomes all too apparent.

However, there is no arguing about the sheer professionalism of the operation. From the thundering model of a NASA space station rising spectacularly from the stage at the beginning to the dazzling fireworks during *The Dance* at the finale, this gig pushed all the right showbiz buttons.

The band, which included Trisha Yearwood and Susan Ashton on backing vocals, were flawless and the two-hour set was perfectly paced to accommodate raucous country rock-out and pathos-drenched love songs.

There was only one ingredient missing: soul. This is music which smokes — but never inhales. And like Brooks himself, it is a little too eager to please. But as all the swaying stonks illustrated, people want to be pleased.

NICK KELLY



Urban cowboy: Garth Brooks interrupted his current American tour to massage his Irish market with three record-breaking, sell-out concerts

## LONDON

**ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA** Prokofiev's *Concerto for Violin and Piano* (1925) and *Concerto for Violin and Piano* (1925) with soloist John Anderson. 7.30pm. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. £10-15.

**MAURIZIO POLLINI** The virtuoso continues his survey of the Beethoven piano sonatas. 7.30pm. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. £10-15.

**TITUS ANDRONICUS** Following his production of *Skylight*, David Hare's latest play is a comedy of errors in the form of a Greek tragedy. 7.30pm. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. £10-15.

**ELSEWHERE** *Pinchas Zukerman* (Concerto for Violin and Piano) and *Pinchas Zukerman* (Concerto for Violin and Piano). 7.30pm. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. £10-15.

**THE FOX** New American musical by John O'Grady and David P. Rowe. 7.30pm. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. £10-15.

**THE HERALD BED** Peter Whelan's new play. 7.30pm. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. £10-15.

**THE HOME COMING** Peter Whelan's new play. 7.30pm. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. £10-15.

**THE WINDMILLER'S FAN** Graham Murray's production of *Widow*. 7.30pm. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. £10-15.

**THE MAI** Dublin premiere by Maria Carr. 7.30pm. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. £10-15.

**NEW RELEASES** *Dangerous Ground* (19). 7.30pm. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. £10-15.

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## TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Massey

**BLITZ** William Gurne, Joe McMan and Mike Graham star in *Tennessee Williams' Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. 7.30pm. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. £10-15.

**COVENTRY** The National Theatre's production of *Skylight*. 7.30pm. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. £10-15.

**GLASGOW** The 40-strong dance company, Les Ballets Alhambra, performs *Les Ballets Alhambra*. 7.30pm. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. £10-15.

**THEATRE GUIDE** *Jerome Kingdon's assessment of theatre showing in London*

**HOUSE OF COMMONS** *Some seats available*

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## CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London (where indicated with the symbol  $\otimes$ ) on release across the country

**THE PORTRAIT OF A LADY** (12) Jane Campion's lovely adaptation of Henry James, with Nicole Kidman. 7.30pm. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. £10-15.

**RETURN OF THE JEDI** (12) Luke Skywalker battles Darth Vader yet again. 7.30pm. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. £10-15.

**THE WINDMILLER'S FAN** Graham Murray's production of *Widow*. 7.30pm. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. £10-15.

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## Something to crow about

Counting Crows  
Empire, W12

Counting Crows, the most acclaimed soul-searcher of the day.

The band may never attain the misty pinnacles of that multimillion-selling debut, but three years on they remain in rude creative and commercial health. Their second album, *August and Everything After*, is gold here and

guitar. They rounded off with their new single, a splendid remake of the Gloria Gaynor anthem *I Will Survive*, the disco mirrorball supplanted by Vincent Di Fiore's improbable trumpet solo.

So we worked our way backwards to the main course, and a sharp reminder of the indelible mark made by Counting Crows on the hearts and minds of record buyers everywhere in their year zero of 1994. That was when the sextet's *August and Everything After* album became a

global incident and made lead singer and lyricist Adam Duritz the most acclaimed soul-searcher of the day.

The band may never attain the misty pinnacles of that multimillion-selling debut, but three years on they remain in rude creative and commercial health. Their second album, *August and Everything After*, is gold here and

he evoked on pieces such as *I'm Not Sleeping* seemed heartfelt indeed.

Each time the band returned to the album that made their name, for *Rain King*, *Mr. Jones* or *Omaha*, it was to note-perfect and far surpassed accompaniment from a devoted audience. But the encore performance of *A Long December*, from the second album, was the night's most touching. One of the Crows' simplest pieces, featuring Duritz at the piano, it proved that sometimes it takes fewer notes than expected to score a real emotional bullseye.

PAUL SEXTON

## OPERA &amp; BALLET

**COUSSEMENT** 0171 620 8000 (24hrs) ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA. 7.30pm. THE TRAVIATA. 7.30pm. ARADIANOS ON NAKOS.

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## Enthusiasm wanes for statutory interest on late payments

By Rodney Hobson

TODAY, as MPs debate the business proposals in the Queen's Speech, there is evidence that enthusiasm among small companies for a statutory right to interest on late payments is being dampened by their advisers. Concerns range from what size of companies will be allowed to claim interest to the cost of collecting the penalty.

Small business organisations and advisers will have ample opportunity to voice their worries. A Green Paper will be published before Parliament breaks up in July for the summer recess and the DTI is keen to carry out the widest possible consultation by the autumn.

The Bill will be steered through the Commons by Barbara Roche, the Minister for Small Business and an enthusiast for tackling the issue of late payments. The DTI points out that a range of surveys has highlighted the issue as a big worry for small businesses and that a majority see statutory interest as a possible solution. The Forum of Private Businesses, which has 24,000 members, has led the campaign for interest on late payments. However, Robert Cressy, of the SME Centre at Warwick University, said: "If small businesses knew the reality of what a statutory right to interest would mean they would probably be less keen. They could be shooting themselves in the foot. Small businesses are net debtors rather than net creditors."

The British Chamber of Commerce went further, immediately attacking the government proposals as "ill conceived". Ian Peters, deputy director-general, said small businesses will not be able to make the

law stick. He fears that the new Labour Government is in too much of a hurry to demonstrate its support for small businesses.

That reaction flies in the face of surveys of small businesses that make up Chamber of Commerce membership. For instance, a report by the Small Business Research Centre at Kingston University, on behalf of Office World, found that late payment was the single most important policy issue for small businesses in the run-up to the election. A statutory right to interest was the favoured solution.

Simon Lees, group product manager at Equifax, the commercial information supplier, said: "Legislation may be useful because it sets a business climate that says payments should be made within agreed terms... but small businesses will be reluctant to prejudice relations with major customers."

Mike Davis, small business services director at Barclays Bank, said: "Businesses are already free to include interest clauses in contracts in respect of late payments. This practice is not commonplace, particularly among smaller businesses, because of the time and cost involved and the impact this could have on future business."

David Miles, a partner at BDO Stoy Hayward, said: "The planned legislation seems unlikely to benefit growing businesses in general although it may be of help to those businesses that only have one-off relationships such as building contractors where late payment can too easily lead to insolvency."

Stephen Alambritis, spokesman for the Federation of Small Businesses, said businesses should do more to help themselves by taking out credit references, sending out invoices promptly to the right department and chasing up overdue accounts. He said: "Small businesses jump for joy when they get an order. Only later do they think about getting paid. An order that is supplied and not paid for is not an order, it is a gift."



"Yes, I know you've got a cash flow problem. It's all flowing out of here"

## Company charts course for the final journey

By Mark Andrews

BURIAL at sea is usually reserved for those who die on voyage. Warships, merchant ships and cruise liners slip their dead into the deep. If you die on land and have opted for a watery grave, it is not so easy. Only 104 people have been buried at sea in the past eight years.

"It's an involved business," says Stephen Charles-Davis, head of the Britannia Shipping Company for Burial at Sea. His company, based at Newton Hopton, Sidmouth, Devon, and seems to have cornered the market.

Mr Charles-Davis, once an osteopath, formed Britannia when his father expressed a wish to be buried at sea. He could find no one to do it — so he followed the rules and did it himself. That was ten years ago. The business now has a staff of 12, six of them part-timers. The chaplain is a retired Royal Navy padre.

Disposal of a body at sea is licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. You also need the authority of a coroner to take a body out of the country.

"It's tightly regulated," says Mr Charles-Davis. "There are only two places in England and Wales where you can commit a body to the deep, 11 miles off Newhaven, in East Sussex, and 2½ miles off the Needles on the Isle of Wight."

These areas are designated no-fishing and no-dredging spots. "You can't bury bodies at sea that have been embalmed, because of the toxics involved, and they must be disease free," says Mr Charles-Davis. "It's advisable to use bio-



Stephen Charles-Davis, left, and Austin Riley, a fellow director of the Britannia burial-at-sea company

degradable paper shrouds. The coffins are made from marine plywood. They're drilled with 40 two-inch diameter holes and weighted on the bottom with six hundredweight of degradable concrete. All are designed to rot after four years. So will the body — a natural process of decay, due to the action of the sea."

Britannia hires a small Isle of Wight ferry — often the *Island Rose* — and installs a tipping platform. To ensure burial at the right spot, a retired Navy officer navigates.

Sir Ludovic Kennedy, the broadcaster, is a director of Britannia and

an enthusiast for burial at sea. "The sea is the great watery womb from which our ancestors emerged," he says. "What is more natural than to be returned there?"

Britannia does two burials a month, on average. "It's never going to compete with interment and cremation," says Mr Charles-Davis. "And we're not in competition with them. We're offering a special service to a few who want it."

Cost is a big factor — conventional burial or cremation costs about £1,300. Burial at sea is nearly £3,000. Britannia also carries out many scatterings of ashes at sea. It

can be done by relatives from a rowing boat, but Britannia can give it a sense of occasion by providing a chaplain, or even a piper.

Mr Charles-Davis says that it is helpful if someone who wants to be buried at sea informs the company beforehand, to minimise delay in arranging to bring the body for embarkation at Keyhaven, Hampshire.

Mourners can use a cabin for refreshments and music can be played as the ship reaches the burial area, for the chaplain to say a prayer for communal to the deep.

□ Britannia: 01395 568652

## The paper mountain that costs the earth

By Rodney Hobson

SECRETARIES have long suspected it. Now they have the evidence. The spread of electronic systems has added to the amount of paperwork and employers do not have a clue how much they are spending on consuming the world's supply of trees.

Gestetner, which started making office machinery in 1881 when it launched its stencil duplicator, has just started a consultancy division after talking to company directors about office costs.

Nigel Palmer, managing director of Gestetner Consulting, says: "The daily life of every office worker is directly affected by the technology that helps us to print, copy and present papers in endless different shapes, colours and packages. But few organisations have taken stock of how much it is costing them to produce these seemingly endless pieces of paper that pile up on our desks, in our files and in our bins."

He tackled bosses and asked them how much photocopies and faxes cost. Most picked a figure that was about half the true cost.

Mr Palmer says: "A third of company directors admit that when they need papers for a meeting they simply do not give any thought to how those documents are produced." Few seemed to realise that copying in colour was far more expensive than black and white.

Mr Palmer points to the sharp increase in the use of fax machines. Fewer than 50,000 a year were sold ten years ago. Last year 600,000 were bought.

### BRIEFINGS

of crime and the proportion being reported. The findings will be put to the police in the hope that all incidents will be fully investigated. At the same time the federation is urging its members to report all criminal incidents to the police to strengthen the campaign to persuade them to take action.

□ Owner managers with little time for training are responding to the Institute of Management's

modular programmes for new entrepreneurs and owners wanting to be more competitive. Modules can be taken one or two at a time providing basic knowledge for National Vocational Qualifications at levels 3 and 4. Tel: 01536 204222.

□ To reduce the threat of out-of-town shopping and supermarkets to small retailers, Harlow College in Essex is offering free training in

customer service. Training is for employees or owner-managers, who then train their staff and increase their product knowledge. Targeted towns are Harlow, Saffron Walden, St Albans and Bishop's Cleeve. A successful pilot has been held. The next stage will be to develop owners' business skills and help them to form groups to strengthen their buying power. Funding is by Europe's Adapt To Survive initiative. Dow

Stoker Training, Harlow College and Hertfordshire Tec. Tel: Linda Johnston 01279 868200.

□ Almost half Britain's small businesses believe preparations for a single European currency, including new accountancy systems, pricing structures and computer equipment and software, will cost them up to £5,000, says a Lloyds TSB report. In addition, two thirds say they do not know what to do next. John Spence, Lloyds TSB's business banking managing director, wants greater clarification of the possible effects.

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**OMAN** The firm's office in Muscat was established in 1981 and has grown to 7 lawyers operating from modern premises. The office has seen considerable growth, particularly in the capital markets and project finance sectors, and is looking for additional senior lawyers with relevant experience. Applicants with banking, commercial and/or energy experience will also be considered. Knowledge of Arabic is not required.

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For further information on these positions please contact, in confidence, Simon Janion on 0171 404 6669 (on weekends 0181 674 3971). Alternatively write to me, enclosing your CV, at Eagan Janion Recruitment Ltd, 44/45 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1JB (fax 0171 404 8817).

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# LAW

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Julia and Nick Richardson outside their house near Milton Keynes in Buckinghamshire. Traffic noise has made their home life "unbearable"

## Battle of Eagle Farm

Jonathan Clay reports a planning decision that has prevented a farmer from building on his own land

Nick and Julia Richardson have lost their final battle in the High Court to build a new farmhouse on the land in Buckinghamshire that their family has farmed for more than 40 years. Ironically, their defeat came not long after the Government published a new Planning Policy Guidance (PPG7), which heralded the return of the "country house" to legitimate rural development.

The Richardsons' existing home had been rendered "unbearable" — because of the ever-increasing traffic on the M1 passing yards away. Nevertheless, at the recent hearing in the High Court, Michael Rich, QC, a deputy High Court judge, upheld the planning inspector's decision to refuse permission for a new farmhouse to replace their home. In planning policy terms, it would not be a "replacement" because it was too far away from the site of the existing house (in order to escape the noise, and because it is to be bought by the Highways Agency, the Richardsons could not ensure that the existing house would be demolished: A "replacement" dwelling, Mr Rich ruled, must be "on the same site as the existing house").

Mrs Richardson's parents had bought Eagle Farm in 1954, well before the M1 was carved through Buckinghamshire in 1960. In the early years of the motorway, about 20,000 vehicles a day passed on dual two-lane carriageways. By 1980, when Mr Richardson took over the running of the farm from his father-in-law, the motorway was dual three-lane and carrying about four times that amount of traffic. The heaviest flows were in the morning and

evening peak periods. Since then, traffic has more than doubled again and, as the motorway network reaches its congestion threshold, the peak hours have spread, so that for the whole of the day and much of the night the motorway is carrying huge volumes of traffic, about 20 per cent of it heavy goods vehicles. The Highways Agency now plans to widen the motorway again, by adding a fourth lane in each direction on each side.

As Mr Richardson put it: "We have a stark choice: either to remain in the existing house, where the noise level is so high that planning permission for a new house on the existing site would be automatically refused, for noise reasons alone, or find alternative accommodation in nearby Milton Keynes as the local planning authority suggested, and which was endorsed by the planning inspector."

Their case is not simply a personal tragedy. It exposes how, in trying to protect the countryside "for its own sake" (as PPG7 puts it), the restrictions provided by the legislative and policy framework of planning, combined with the objectives of the national strategic highway network, are acting to expel a genuine farmer from his own farm.

By the chairman's casting vote, the planning committee of Milton Keynes Borough Council turned down the application for planning permission on a new site, 200 metres from the existing house. The appeal mechanism swung into action and after a two-day public inquiry, the Department of Environment Inspector turned down the appeal. The inspector considered that the new house, though well designed, would cause "serious harm" to the open countryside because of its prominence in the landscape. Such is the planning framework surrounding the coun-

ty that a well-loved feature in the English landscape, a farmhouse on a farm, is now thought to be a harmful development in the open countryside.

The inspector considered the personal circumstances of the Richardsons and their two teenage sons and though he found himself "greatly taxed" by them, he considered himself obliged, having regard to the planning policy and the effect on the countryside, to dismiss the appeal.

Section 54A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as amended, creates a presumption in favour of the local development plan, which confined new housing to villages and towns. This meant the Ri-

chardsons had to cross the hurdle of falling within one of the exceptions in the Buckinghamshire Structure Plan by which new isolated houses in the countryside might be granted permission.

The two exceptions that could apply allowed such houses if necessary for agriculture or involved "extension, improvement or replacement of an existing dwelling. Ironically, though they farm their 60 hectares at Eagle Farm from the Eagle Farm House, the Richardsons could not justify their new farmhouse on agricultural grounds because the land is largely under cultivation and the tight conditions under the national

Planning Policy Guidance on new farm buildings do not generally justify a farmer living on his land. So Mr Richardson turned to the second exception, arguing that his new house would be a "replacement" for his existing farmhouse. After all, it would be the new house of the farmer who farms the land and would be situated on the farm. This interpretation was rejected as not generally accepted; and was, the judge said, "wholly misconceived".

The Richardsons and their two young sons now face the choice of bearing the unbearable, or joining the daily commuters of Milton Keynes, contributing to the very problem that is driving them from their home. A recent study for the council shows that hundreds of acres of farm land on the periphery of the town are likely to be swallowed up by the expansion of Milton Keynes during the next 20 years.

The new PPG7, *Planning Policy Guidance for the Countryside*, published last February — which replaces the guidance used in the Richardsons' appeal — proclaims that "Sustainable development is the cornerstone of both the Government's rural policies and its planning policies". That includes the aim of meeting "the economic and social needs of people who live and work in rural areas" and reducing the need for commuting by cars.

If such sentiments are to be met in reality, planning policy will need to be flexible enough to recognise that there is something intrinsically valuable in having a farmer living on his land. Not to do so ignores a relationship, understood in the cradle of what we now call "civilisation", between people and the cultivation of land.

● The author is a barrister at 11 Bolt Court, Fleet Street.

## The law officers are worthy of their hire

There is no subject of greater interest to lawyers than the earnings of their colleagues. Of particular fascination this month is that a successful commercial lawyer, Charles Falconer, QC, has given up a lucrative career at the Bar to become Solicitor-General.

The Attorney-General and the Solicitor-General have onerous responsibilities as the principal legal advisers to the Government and to the Crown. The Attorney-General (John Morris, QC) receives £63,756 a year, plus his salary of £43,860 as an MP. The Solicitor-General currently receives £52,278, which would normally be supplemented by an MP's salary. Because Mr Falconer is not an MP, his salary will be increased to £78,072, the amount currently paid to the Lord Advocate.

Until 1946, how much the law officers should be paid was a subject of political and public controversy. The deal done to settle the issue has, in the past 50 years, been so undermined by the financial disadvantage of the law officers that a successful barrister is now required to show a very strong sense of public duty if he is to accept the post.

The history is discussed by Professor John Edwards in *The Law Officers of the Crown* (Sweet & Maxwell, 1964). Traditionally, the law officers received a fee for each item of legal advice and each case in which they represented the Crown, and were also able to act for private clients. Consequently, their earnings were substantial. In 1616, Sir Francis Bacon received £6,000 a year while acting as Attorney-General. In the 1850s, Solicitor-General Sir Richard Bethell earned more than £20,000 a year.

A Treasury minute in 1871 imposed some control by paying an annual salary for non-contentious Crown business: £7,000 to the Attorney-General and £6,000 to the Solicitor-General. They continued to receive fees for contentious business and associated opinions "according to the ordinary professional scale", and were permitted to act for private clients. As Solicitor-General from 1871 until his appointment as Master of the Rolls in 1873, Sir George Jessel earned an astonishing £30,000 a year.

By the 1890s, the Government was aggrieved by the difficulty in obtaining advice from the law officers when they were so busy representing private clients. There was also public and professional criticism of the Attorney-General, Sir Richard Webster (although it did not prevent his becoming Lord Chief Justice Alverstone), for his sharp conduct when appearing as counsel for the

Times. As a result, in 1892 Gladstone's Government prohibited the law officers from appearing as counsel for private clients.

But in addition to their salaries, the law officers continued to earn substantial fees for representing the Crown in court. In 1921, Sir Gordon Hewart, as Attorney-General, received £27,000 for such work. Lloyd George told a parliamentary select committee in 1930 that such remuneration from the Crown was "outrageous" and "preposterous" since he "did not believe any lawyer would refuse to accept the post if you said to him 'You will get £7,000 and the headship of your profession'."

Change was inevitable, despite the subtle argument to the 1930 select committee by the first Lord Hailsham, himself a former Attorney-General, that the fees were effectively paid by unsuccessful litigants ordered to pay costs after being defeated by the superior advocacy of the law officers. But just as the Chancellor of the Exchequer does not receive extra remuneration for greater productivity, so the law officers had to accept an all-inclusive salary for their work.

In 1946, it was agreed that the Attorney-General would be paid £10,000 a year and the Solicitor-General £7,000. At a time when a High Court judge earned £5,000, those salaries were set at reasonable figures which recognised that law officers would be giving up lucrative careers at the Bar and would have onerous responsibilities in court and out.

In the past 50 years (when the cost of living has increased twentyfold), the salaries of the law officers have fallen substantially in real and comparative terms, in breach of the

implied terms of the 1946 agreement. Of course, a Solicitor-General cannot expect to be paid what successful barristers earn in private practice. But the status and duties of the post require that payment should be at least level with the (ungenerous) annual salary of a High Court judge, which is now £108,192.

It is no coincidence that just as the payments to the law officers have substantially declined in value since 1946, so have the number of occasions on which the incumbents have represented the Crown in court. Parliament has required that the salary of the Lord Chancellor should be £2,500 a year more than that of the Lord Chief Justice (currently £138,165). The new Parliament should link the pay for the Solicitor-General to that for a High Court judge, and link the wages of the Attorney-General to those received by a Court of Appeal judge (£122,415).

● The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.



DAVID PANNICK QC

## LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

### 3 HARE COURT

The Chambers of William Clegg QC congratulate The Right Honourable John Morris QC on his appointment as Attorney General.

Chambers also congratulate Nigel Lithman on becoming Queen's Counsel and welcome Philip Hackert, formerly of Clouston, and Christine Henson, who has successfully completed her pupillage, as members of Chambers.

The Members of Chambers are:

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## CHAMBERS

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## Row over Woolf

LORD WOOLF, Master of the Rolls, and Michael Zander, of the London School of Economics, are in public dispute over the Woolf reforms to civil justice. It started with Professor Zander's speech last month to the Chancery Bar Association, a detailed critique of the Woolf reforms, which Professor Zander has attacked for the past two years.

Lord Woolf last week hit back in his Gee lecture to the Royal College of Physicians. The professor's criticisms were "misleading and inaccurate" and to pay him serious attention, Lord Woolf said, would be "to give him credit he does not deserve."

Professor Zander, who was in the audience, tried to answer back, but was firmly silenced by the chairman. The debate has a serious point: concern is growing that Lord Irvine of Lairg, QC, the new Lord Chancellor, might "call a halt" to work in progress, while the cost-benefit analysis he wants is carried out.

## OUTS

Lord Woolf said: "Unintentionally, he [Professor Zander] would damage a process of change which is already taking place and which — while it will not be smooth — offers real hope for the future, as judges, practitioners and insurance bodies up and down the land recognise."

Best employers DAVIES Arnold Cooper and Clifford Chance are the only two law firms to be included in the Corporate Research Foundation's new ranking of Britain's best employers. DAC is thus the only law firm to feature in both the *Top UK Employers* and *Top 100 UK Companies of the Future* publications.

To celebrate, DAC offered champagne to all staff — and visitors — last Friday, and gave staff an extra day off. What is Clifford Chance doing?

Classic farewell MR Justice Parker, the High Court judge who sits as Vice-Chancellor of the County Palatine of Lancaster, last week staged a surprise farewell for his retiring usher, Brian Jessop, a classics scholar.

He listed the occasion as just another application to be heard — then packed the court with well-wishers and friends — a sort of *This is Your Life*, the judge explained.

Mr Justice Parker told Mr Jessop that he would miss "being able to look over the bench at moments of stress and see you calmly composing some Latin verse."



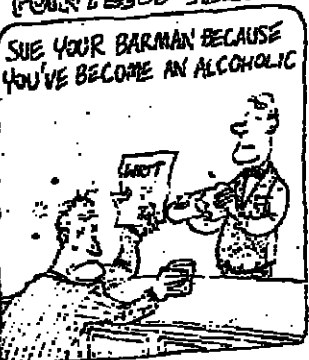
HQ: happening place

## Society do of the year

FORGET the seaside, the Law Society's headquarters off Fleet Street will be the fashionable destination for day-trippers this summer. Flyers promoting a cut-price trip to Chancery Lane in June are being distributed to solicitors in the South West. For just £15, they will be ferried to London by minibus for an action-packed tour of the society's bustling headquarters. The flyer says: "A comprehensive programme has been put together, presenting an opportunity to meet and quiz senior members of the Law Society's management team."

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- EMPLOYMENT** TO £42,000  
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# CHAMBERS

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**Moving to London**  
During the recession, London lawyers moved out to the provinces in large numbers. This flow has now changed direction. Lawyers are moving into London. Almost half the candidates are from the City and the West End are from regional firms. They fill positions in corporate or corporate finance, banking, insolvency, intellectual property, private client and commercial property. Movement on this scale has not been seen for years. Other things being equal - good academic background, relevant experience - candidates from the regions are popular with London firms. They have one significant advantage: their desire to move to London raises no doubts or queries. They do not have to overcome the key question facing London-based candidates: "Why is this candidate on the job-market?" Moving to London - in the eyes of most City partners - is so manifestly desirable, so self-evidently intelligent, that all candidates seeking to do so are credited with sound common sense. The converse of this is that vacancies in the regions have increased substantially. One of our candidates - a young solicitor with a City firm who wants to move to the North West - will be seeing about ten top-quality firms in the space of a week. The regional firms have never been stronger, and the time has never been better for relocating out of London.

Michael Chambers  
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**Snr Construction:** Birmingham  
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**Employment:** Leeds  
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**CORPORATE**  
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**IT**  
High calibre caseload awaits ambitious lawyer at this City firm with leading reputation in the IT field. 2-6yrs  
**PROPERTY FINANCE**  
Highly regarded City firm with superb property department seeks strong calibre lawyer ideally with property or finance background. Excellent client contact. 1-4yrs  
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Please contact Sophie Brooks (London) or, for In-House vacancies, contact Struan Hall, Tel 0171 430 1711 or write to Graham Gill & Young, 46 Kingsway, London WC2B 6EN. Fax 0171 431 4186.



0171 430 1711



Damages awards against US media average \$2.8 million, reports James Zirin

**H**uge verdicts in libel cases are back in vogue in America. Despite all the legal obstacles, the average damages award in libel and privacy cases against the media in 1996 was \$2.8 million (about £1.7 million), significantly up from the 1995 average of \$1.6 million.

On March 20, a seven-person Houston federal court jury awarded a record \$22.7 million in compensatory and punitive damages against the company that publishes *The Wall Street Journal* and one of the *Journal's* reporters. The plaintiff, a defunct brokerage, claimed it had been forced out of business by an article containing at least eight false statements about its financial and business practices. Commenting on the staggering verdict, the managing editor of the *Journal* explained that the paper merely chronicled the difficulties of the brokerage; it did not cause them.

Last December a Miami jury returned a \$10 million libel verdict against ABC in favour of Alan Levin, Bank Atlantic's chairman, and his BFC Financial Corp. Mr Levin claimed that the network defamed him in a programme that was highly critical of a real-estate-forbonds swap he had engineered. The jury regarded the programme as a hatchet job on Levin's character.

Highly publicised settle-

# In the land of the multimillion libel

ments have added fuel to the fire. Consider the case of Richard Jewell, the Atlanta security guard investigated by the FBI last summer in connection with the bombing at the Atlanta Olympics. After the FBI dropped Mr Jewell as a suspect, he won cash settlements from NBC and CNN and filed a libel suit against the *Atlanta Constitution* for implying that Mr Jewell was the main responsible.

The paper has said it will fight the case because it considers that the suit puts at issue its credibility and reputation.

In 1964, when the Supreme Court in *New York Times v Sullivan* decided that constitutional free-press guarantees permitted a public figure to sue for libel only if there has been shown by "clear and convincing evidence" either "knowledge of the falsity" or a "reckless disregard for the truth", many thought it effectively sounded the death knell on defamation claims in America. The court reasoned that the first remedy of any victim of defamation is self-

help: countering the false statement by effective communication, and public figures normally enjoy greater access to the media than private persons who may lack effective means of rebuttal.

There was a further underpinning to the court's reasoning. Public figures have chosen to assume positions of special prominence in society. A prominent footballer has eagerly performed under the spotlight of media attention. The court considers that the media are entitled to assume that public figures have voluntarily exposed themselves to increased risk of injury from defamatory falsehood.

A public figure may have achieved such fame or notoriety that he or she becomes a public figure for all purposes or may, through participation in the controversy giving rise to the defamation, become a "limited purpose public figure" who has thrust himself into the vortex of public opinion. A "limited purpose public figure" could be

almost anyone newsworthy. The Supreme Court in *Sullivan* effectively threw a monkey wrench into the ancient libel machinery. It is almost impossible to prove either that a news organisation knowingly published a false statement or published a statement uncaring whether it was true or false. Such matters involve probing someone's state of mind. And that is often difficult to prove.

Some public figures, however, have not been daunted by the obstacles. General William Westmoreland sued CBS some years ago, claiming that he had been libelled by the suggestion that he had deliberately understated enemy troop strength in Vietnam. To the consternation of his supporters, he capitulated, withdrawing the case just before it was to go to the jury. General Ariel Sharon sued *Time* magazine for suggesting that the secret report of an Israeli investigative commission had held him responsible for a massacre of civilians in Lebanon. The jury decided for *Time*, finding the statements in the magazine



Richard Jewell, above, unfairly accused, and Erik Williams, who claimed a story against him was concocted

false but published without knowledge of the falsity or reckless disregard for the truth. Both lawsuits, though unsuccessful in court, served to rebut the unfounded published reports.

Juries hostile to the media have returned large damages awards in suits brought by public figures. Such awards, however, are in most cases overturned on appeal. Since *Sullivan*, more than 56 per cent of plaintiffs' verdicts in libel cases have been reversed on appeal, compared with a 17 per cent reversal rate in federal civil cases overall.

Back in Texas, the latest action involves the reporting of a police investigation into charges later established to be unfounded. After Erik Wil-

liams, the star offensive lineman for the Dallas Cowboys, was falsely accused of rape, he is suing the local television station and its reporter, alleging they coaxed the woman in the accusations so they could have a story. Mr Williams says he will donate any proceeds to charity.

Libel actions pose the question of what is more important: an individual's interest in his good name or the public's interest in a free press? What is more valuable: the freedom to publish or the duty to publish the truth? The debate rages on in the context of legal proceedings that pit the media's reputation against that of the people in the news.

● The author is a lawyer with the New York law firm Brown & Wood.



Tite, left, and Lewis link with Coopers & Lybrand

Edward Fennell reports on a developing strategy in the City that will have implications for law firms

**N**othing stands still for long in the law business. Just a fortnight ago there were celebrations for a decade of dominance of the London scene by Clifford Chance and the success of its international formula.

But already it seems that this formula, now adopted by an elite group of half a dozen firms, may have to change within the next five years.

The party-poopers are the big accountancy firms. Throughout the City's legal community, the realisation has dawned within the last week or two that there can be no possibility of mistaking the seriousness with which the big City accountancy outfits intend to tackle legal services.

Just how far they intended to go has been a matter of

## Birth of the mega-biz?

speculation since Garretts was established with the backing of Arthur Andersen in the early 1990s. This was followed by Coopers & Lybrand, which agreed terms with Tite & Lewis, and Price Waterhouse with its Arnheim & Co initiative.

Andersen now positions itself as an all-round "business adviser" and legal advice is a key part of the service. Peter Wyman, Coopers & Lybrand's tax chief, acknowledges that the Andersen initiative has "changed the market" and that for his firm, too, "integrated legal and accounting services" will be important. And

KPMG, which has no law firm in the UK, is now looking hard at the possibility of developing one (or more likely, a group of associated regional firms).

So the period of market testing is ending, and the results are positive. People such as Julia Chain, who heads Garretts, says the last couple of years have confirmed that many clients want integrated, multidisciplinary business-advice services.

Christopher Tite and Mark Lewis have had the same experience. Because of a link with Coopers & Lybrand, they reckon that Tite & Lewis will have

doubled in size by the end of the year. They are receiving work from Coopers' existing clients and Coopers is gaining clients through Tite & Lewis.

The new formula of being part of a service that provides all-round business advice rather than simply technical skills is attractive to those who are still fairly new to the profession. But it could take a decade before the top firms feel under any pressure.

There has been gossip for a few months about Garretts again leaving the way in seeking a merger with a large City firm. It pulled off a coup in Spain by linking with

Garrigues, probably the country's most respected and modern law firm. Now, Andersen, through Garretts, is likely to do something roughly similar in London. When that happens, it will send shock waves around the City. Not only important in itself, it will also, almost certainly, force the hands of the other accountancy-based firms.

And remember, the real impetus for change comes from exactly the same arguments as made by Chance and Freshfields about their own growth. The biggest corporate clients want global services. Mr Tite and Mr Lewis, say: "Coopers & Lybrand can already provide them on a scale bigger than the largest City law firms can offer and that is where the accountants have the edge."

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A dynamic City practice is seeking a high calibre senior EU/Competition assistant to set up and run its new office in Brussels. The firm's workload has expanded dramatically in recent times specifically in the IT telecoms market which is a major factor in its expansion. As well as having first class experience in the EU/Competition field, the successful candidate will be ready for new challenges and have the confidence, maturity and ambition necessary to start up an operation of this kind. The financial rewards are excellent with the genuine prospect of rapid partnership. Ref: T00254.H.

**PRIVATE CLIENT**  
*Partnership Designate*  
Leading international City firm requires a senior assistant/partner to replace a partner who is leaving the practice. Opportunity to take on an established practice and to assist in the further development of this important element of the firm. The practice is committed to maintaining a private client department and offers partnership for the right applicant. Substantial package which offers a high degree of stability for the future. Ref: T00272.C.

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**TAX**  
*Senior*  
This tax department in the City has recently recruited several well-known tax specialists for their creativity in devising new tax products, particularly in relation to cross-border matters. It now seeks to augment its team by the addition of a further tax specialist from a well known City or provincial law firm. Good contacts and reputation in this field are essential. Ref: T10401.G.

**BANKING**  
*2 to 4 Years Qualified*  
A major UK Bank is looking to recruit a lawyer to handle a broad range of activities. This will include drafting and negotiating banking agreements, working on special projects and initiatives, dealing with sophisticated financial products in the capital markets area and giving legal support to client teams. Candidates must have a general banking background combined with some capital markets experience. This role would suit someone who works well independently and is ready to take on responsibility at a junior level. Ideally, candidates will be from one of the known banking firms or at a major bank. Ref: T10505.E.

**CAPITAL MARKETS**  
*4 to 8 Years Qualified*  
A major international banking and financial services organisation which provides a comprehensive range of financial services is looking for a lawyer to join its capital markets team which is part of the group legal department. This will include broadly based capital markets work dealing directly with traders, sales, risk management and documentation groups and with a policy function liaising directly with Hong Kong and New York. Must have capital markets experience together with familiarity of ISDA, FSA and ISMA. Ref: T243.E.

**EMPLOYMENT**  
*2 to 5 Years Qualified*  
An employment lawyer with a mix of contentious and non-contentious experience is now sought by this leading employment practice with a first class reputation. The department is particularly well known for its heavy-weight industrial tribunal work as well as its innovative thinking and ability to devise new employment concepts. Very sought after position. Ref: T10104.G.

**COMPANY/COMMERCIAL - IN-HOUSE**  
*4 to 8 Years Qualified*  
Leading multi-national PLC is seeking a high calibre commercial lawyer to join its legal department. Candidates should have a strong academic background and preferably be from a leading City or provincial firm. The role will involve both corporate and commercial transactions, therefore candidates should have good experience in both of these areas. A rare opportunity to join the established legal department of a leading company that is known for its friendly and professional working environment. Ref: T11518.J.

**COMPANY/COMMERCIAL**  
*2 to 5 Years Qualified*  
Originally a small firm that has rapidly expanded to become a medium sized practice and is now a large force in the corporate market, is seeking yet another assistant to join a well structured and supported department. Successful applicants will handle a mix of commercial and corporate work for mainly UK companies (public and private) many of which are in the media and entertainment field. Ref: T11553.D.

Please contact Dominique W Pengelly, Alison Barrett or Gavin Crocker (all qualified lawyers) on 0171 417 1400 or write to them at the London office for more information in complete confidence. Evenings/Weekends 0181 960 6144. Confidential Fax 0171 417 1444. Email: dominiquew@garfieldrobbins.co.uk

### IN-HOUSE

► **European/Eminent Counsel Germany**  
A world leading US IT multinational is looking to recruit a European qualified lawyer, at least 3 years qualified, with employment/HR experience gained ideally in-house. Ref: T2956.WT.

► **Finance Counsel South East of France**  
This well known Anglo-French joint venture requires a circa 2 year qualified banking and finance lawyer to work with and provide advice to the Group Treasurer. Ref: T218WT.

► **European Corporate Counsel London**  
This prestigious global investment bank urgently requires a 3 to 8 year qualified City solicitor with broad corporate and, in particular, M&A experience. Ref: T218WT.

► **European Comm/TP South West**  
A household name US multinational seeks a 3 to 7 year qualified in-house lawyer who currently handles a European or international commercial role including IP issues. Ref: T2956.WT.

► **Commercial Prop./L & T Surrey**  
This diversified UK group is looking to recruit a 2 to 5 year qualified lawyer (or possibly a senior legal executive) with previous commercial property and, in particular, L&T experience. Ref: T272RM.

► **Compliance Officer London**  
This global US bank is seeking a newly to 18 month qualified lawyer, preferably with regulatory/retail banking knowledge, to join a small team. An excellent package is on offer. Ref: T277RM.

Contact Naveen Tuli or Rachael North

### OVERSEAS

**Amsterdam - In-House**  
As the Netherlands becomes an increasingly popular location for US multinationals, the demand for continental lawyers to move in-house has never been higher.

Naveen Tuli, head of our In-House (Overseas) Division, will be travelling to Amsterdam towards the end of the month on behalf of a major household name US multinational looking to recruit a Legal Counsel for Northern Europe.

If you are interested in exploring opportunities in the Netherlands and have qualified on the continent or have relevant languages, please call Naveen Tuli.

**Worldwide - Practice**  
With over 100 jobs in 25 countries throughout the world, we are extremely well placed to help commercial lawyers in all disciplines looking to spend some time working in another jurisdiction.

New jobs within the last week include positions for corporate, litigation and construction lawyers in Hong Kong and for a newly qualified shipping litigator in Singapore.

For further information or to discuss any aspect of working overseas in private practice, please contact Daniel Lewis.

### PRACTICE

**LONDON**

► **Commercial Property** 1-4 Years  
This dynamic commercial firm has opportunities for 2 property solicitors. The work will include L&T and retail business park matters. Ref: T218AF.

► **Company/Commercial** 2-5 Years  
This large West End firm with an excellent reputation in the corporate field needs 2 lawyers to handle mainly transactional work with some venture capital work. Ref: T490JF.

► **Private Client** 1-2 Years  
This leading City firm has a requirement for a tax and estate planning lawyer to undertake a variety of work including acting for educational and other charitable organisations. Ref: T2418K.

► **Personal Injury** NQ and 3-5 Years  
This small successful North London firm has opportunities for two litigators. The more senior should ideally be qualified for panel membership. Ref: T6885K.

**NATIONWIDE**

► **Private Client** South Coast  
One of the foremost regional practices in the South has a thriving private client department. Excellent opportunities for advancement await a solicitor with not less than 2 years experience of trust and tax planning work and an interest in investment management. Ref: T219AF.

► **Comm Lit - Partnership Manchester**  
This is an excellent opportunity for a senior litigator to join the thriving litigation dept of this major national practice at partner level. Ref: T2123AF.

Contact Jane Foster, Samantha Knowles or Andrea Field

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## LONDON POSITIONS

**NEWLY QUALIFIED LAWYERS** £30,000  
Early indications suggest that demand for September qualifiers will be strong - although many City firms have yet to finalise their requirements in relation to their own home grown products. We are now receiving instructions from several leading central London practices in a variety of disciplines. If you regard yourself as having had good training, with a strong academic background, the next few months will see a variety of positions available in a mixture of specialisations.

**CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS** to £54,000  
Particularly well managed large City firm seeks a construction/project/PFI lawyer with not more than four years' ppe. You should have experience in concession, PFI, construction and, preferably, power purchase agreements in addition to building contracts and consultants appointments. Siting within the Construction Group you will also play a prominent role in the projects area.

**CAPITAL MARKETS** to £80,000  
Looking to join a leading global securities team, you will have experience of either debt and/or equity capital markets transactions with not less than two years' ppe. You will be involved in numerous securities transactions including sovereign debt, bond issues, debt offerings and IPOs and, in this extremely friendly department have the opportunity to diversify into other areas of finance if that is your wish. Premier City firm with matching offices and remuneration.

**GENERAL BANKING** £TOP RATE  
Medium to large City firm with flourishing banking department is seeking banking and international finance lawyers with not less than one years' ppe. There is the opportunity to develop further in project finance, capital markets, securitisation and general banking, with blue chip clients acting for both lenders/borrowers, in addition to high grade corporate banking. This is an extremely friendly and supportive department - recommended for a career move.

**PROPERTY PEOPLE** to £52,000  
This progressive City practice has had an avalanche of instructions in the property area in 1997. At the 2-4 year level, the firm urgently seeks able assistants with solid Landlord and Tenant, development and institutional client background to join as thriving team. Never a dull moment in this practice where personal attributes are placed at a premium.

**COMPANY LAWYER** to £46,000  
A good range of private company work makes this medium-sized central London firm a more congenial environment than many City practices. You will enjoy opportunities to assume considerable client responsibility in this non-hierarchical team. With one to three years' ppe in a City or leading regional firm, this set up offers outstanding prospects and historically low turnover of assistants.

**EMPLOYEE BENEFITS** to £60,000  
Ideally with non-contentious expertise involving all forms of approved and non-approved share schemes, incentive arrangements, service agreements and corporate transactional support, you will want to join an informal department which offers considerable responsibility within a supportive framework. With not less than two years' ppe this department (in one of the most highly regarded City firms) has been actively building on an increasingly strong reputation over the last two years.

**PROJECT FINANCE** to £60,000  
Highly respected medium/large City firm with range of international offices and clients requires ambitious two to four year qualified lawyers with quality multi-jurisdictional projects experience likely to have embraced power projects, infrastructure and complex financing transactions. You will join an outstanding department committed to enabling its assistants to develop legal and cutting edge commercial experience as well as allowing plenty of foreign travel.

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For more information, in strictest confidence on these or other career opportunities please feel free to contact Hugh Kelly or Mark Field on 0171 588 7878 (0171 226 9398 weekends) or write to them at Kellyfield Consulting, Moor House, 119 London Wall, London EC2Y 5EJ. Confidential fax 0171 588 7020.



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With an annual turnover approaching \$1 billion, our US multinational client, is a rapidly growing market leader in the provision of high technology business solutions. It supplies unmatched technology design expertise and consultancy services in the field of EDA, to blue chip corporates in the Aerospace, Automotive, Computer, Consumer, Electronics, Military, Semiconductor and Telecommunications industries.

You will play a key role managing your own legal department, driving forward the structuring and negotiation of sophisticated and high value customer contracts including software licensing, design services and outsourcing agreements, on a pan-European basis. This will involve working closely with the Vice President of European Corporate Services and also liaising with the General Counsel in the US.

Committed to the in-house sector and with between three and ten years' ppe, you will be a commercial lawyer from either private practice or in-house, with the necessary mastery of complex international IT contracts, as well as the intellectual property and EU law issues involved. You will be a proactive self-starter, with a flexibility of approach to meet your clients' needs.

This appointment is seen as fundamental to the Company's continued success and expansion, involving extensive travel throughout Europe. As such, an excellent remuneration package is on offer, including an executive car, pension and comprehensive benefits programme.



For further information in complete confidence, please contact Greg Abrahams or Rebecca Errington on 0171-405 6062 (0171-359 6660 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougal In-House Legal, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394.



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At the cutting edge of a rapidly developing area of law, we now seek to recruit the following in the Litigation Department of the Enforcement Division:

### •Team Leader

You will work in close conjunction with other legal team leaders and the Head of Litigation, handling a range of disciplinary and enforcement matters. These will include project planning, liaising with other departments, delegating to and managing junior lawyers on your team, and dealing personally with cases requiring special attention.

You will ideally have a background in financial services litigation. You may have worked either in private practice or for a regulatory body.

### • Case Officers

We seek lawyers with 0-2 and 2-4 years' ppe respectively. You will ideally have litigation experience either gained with a City firm, or as a barrister.

Reporting to the team leader you will prepare and handle a variety of cases arising from disciplinary and enforcement issues. Often acting independently, yet working as an integral part of the team, your role will include conducting advocacy before Tribunals.

Based in prestigious Canada Square you will receive a good salary and comprehensive benefits package.



For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Kate Sutcliffe, Adrian Fox or Jane Mesrie on 0171-405-6062 (0181-789 9933 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougal Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831-6394. This assignment is being dealt with on an exclusive basis and all third party applications will be forwarded to them.



SOLICITORS

We are leaders in the field of commercial dispute resolution in the City of London in the shipping and insurance industries. We need litigators for our London and foreign offices to service an international client base.

You will have strong academic credentials and have undertaken excellent training in your two year traineeship. You will now have up to three years' PQE all or most of which will have been in the field of dispute resolution. You seek fresh challenges. You will receive benefits and remuneration commensurate with a City firm. Personal presence, a sensitivity to different cultures and a courteous tenacity in achieving the best for your client are also important prerequisites.

Although an advantage, a knowledge of the shipping and insurance industries is not essential.

If you wish to apply please send your curriculum vitae by 30th May 1997 to Kate Bottomley.

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## CONSIDER THE OPTIONS

### CORPORATE

To £65,000  
What makes the London office of this leading national firm different from its City competitors is that it can offer corporate lawyers with 1-3 years' ppe a range of work that the others just cannot match. Prospects here are fantastic, good and this would be even more perfect if you have Yellow Book experience. Ref: T2964

### IN-HOUSE BANKING

To £Excellent  
An excellent spread of work in an excellent retail banking group - the perfect move in-house. If you are a lawyer with 3-5 years' ppe and a basic knowledge of capital markets, you will enjoy a very full range of banking benefits, including a car, subsidised mortgage and a good bonus. Ref: T2845

### SENIOR FINANCE

US Firm To £Exceptional  
Young partners can be made to feel very important in the London office of this major US firm as the rewards on offer would only be available to more senior partners at City firms. Wonderful openings for banking partners inside up within the last five years who have good contacts. Ref: T15882

### TRUST & PENSIONS LITIGATION

To £60,000  
If you are a young, forward-looking person, then you will fit in very well at this top 10 City firm, which has come out of the recession unscathed. It needs a pension/trusts litigator with 2-5 years' ppe in one of these areas, keen to act for wealthy individuals. Ref: T40109

### IT/TELECOMS

To £70,000  
The IT department of this leading medium-sized City firm is already ranked as one of the very best and you could easily buy into the continuing success if you are a non-contentious IT lawyer with 4-6 years' ppe or a telecoms lawyer specialising in regulatory aspects with 2-4 years' ppe. Ref: T10835

### COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

To £62,000  
Partnership is very much on the agenda for a commercial property lawyer with 3-5 years' ppe who joins this top 20 City firm's commercial development team. The work will involve a good mix of investment, general commercial PFI/development and retail work for some very high-profile clients. Ref: T21883

### PENSIONS

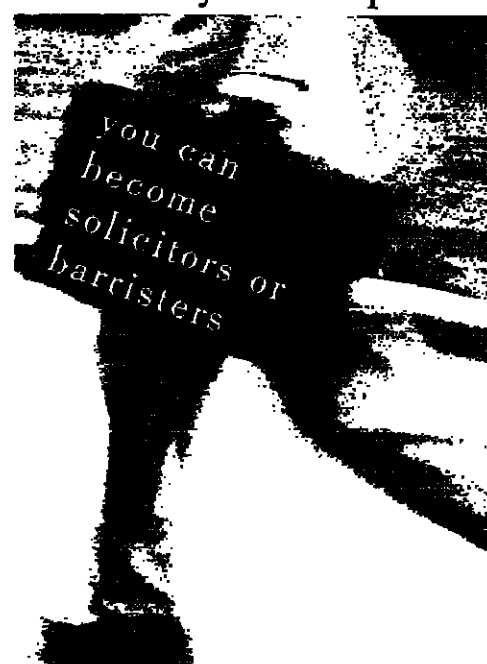
To £43,000  
Not only will you be joining a pensions practice that is growing at an impressive rate of knots, but at this top 10 City firm you will also enjoy excellent training and prospects. It is a super move for a lawyer with 0-3 years' ppe either totally in pensions or combined with another discipline. Ref: T17386

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Greg Abrahams, Sarah David or Jonathan Marsden (all qualified lawyers) on 0171-405 6062 (0171-359 6660 or 0171-789 7704 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougal Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394.



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We are looking for an experienced and enterprising individual to take responsibility for the development and marketing of our Legal Practice Courses, which are offered in full-time, part-time day and part-time evening modes at our site in Moorgate in the heart of the City of London. The person appointed will be qualified as a solicitor, have experience of the Legal Practice Course and will be able to show strong leadership ability. Ref: 97/27/T.

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We also wish to appoint a Lecturer to join the team that is delivering the Legal Practice Courses. The person appointed will be a qualified solicitor and have recent practical experience and an interest in the teaching of legal skills. Ref: 97/28/T.

For both posts, applicants should be able to offer teaching in at least one of the LPC compulsory subjects (Business Law and Practice, Litigation, Conveyancing) and in at least one elective subject (ability to offer Commercial Law and/or Law of International Trade would be a particular advantage).

For an informal discussion, please telephone Frank Webb, Head of Department of Law, on 0171 320 1501.

For an application package, please send a large (A4) self-addressed envelope, quoting the appropriate Ref., to the Personnel Department, 133 Whitechapel High Street, London E1 7QA. Closing date: 3rd June 1997.



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Your in-depth knowledge of the charitable legacy market should be matched by a creative marketing approach to increasing income. The ability to assess the legal implications of legacy fundraising techniques is vital as is experience of legal procedures relating to estate administration. Also key will be sound commercial judgement, high levels of tact and diplomacy and excellent interpersonal skills.

For further information and an informal chat, please contact Professor Gordon McVie, Director General on 0171-224 1333. Closing date: 30 May 1997.

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Superb opening for senior employment lawyer at circa 45 partner firm based in the City. The dedicated employment and pensions team, currently the fastest growing in the firm, presently comprises six specialist lawyers handling all aspects of non-contentious and contentious work. A high value is placed on having a practical and commonsense approach as well as an understanding of the relevant law. Ref: 3691. Contact: Jane Glasberg.

**CONSTRUCTION LITIGATION** **0-4 YEARS' PQE**  
Many of this construction group's clients are well known contractors, civil engineering companies, developers, local authorities, other public authorities and funding institutions. They can offer a challenging and positive environment for an able and ambitious junior lawyer with construction litigation experience. Some non-contentious experience would be advantageous as would an engineering background. Ref: 3568. Contact: Jane Glasberg.

**IP/IT AND SHIP FINANCE** **NEWLY QUALIFIED**  
Have you completed your training contract, feeling that the opportunities that have presented themselves do not meet your requirements? Two clients are already looking for two City trained NQ's to fill a Ship Finance vacancy at a specialist medium sized firm and an IP/IT qualifier to work within one of the most respected international firms. Ref: 4243. Contact: Peter Gooden.

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY** **PARTNER**  
Charming medium-sized commercial firm with attractive location in central London continues to expand its IP practice. The partnership invites a further partner to swell its ranks. Will appeal to senior associate or existing partner banking after a happier and particularly friendly working environment. A special opportunity - must bring following. Ref: 3569. Contact: Cleo Sims.

## EMPLOYMENT - IN HOUSE

**4-7 YEARS' PQE**  
An international company offers a rare opportunity for an employment lawyer with strong contentious and non-contentious experience. You will be dealing with a high volume of work much of which will be extremely complex, challenging and have an international component. A robust and self-confident solicitor will thrive in this fast-moving environment. French language ability an advantage. Ref: 3704. Contact: Paul Remusick.

**CORPORATE ENTERTAINMENT** **1-5 YEARS' PQE**  
This is a rare opportunity for corporate lawyers to branch out into the entertainment field and put a little colour into their lives. Dynamic, medium-sized firm, renowned for its corporate and entertainment expertise requires young lawyers to handle a diverse range of corporate work for blue-chip clients from the entertainment world who are household names. Ref: 1777. Contact: Pandora Close.

**PARTNER DESIGNATE - TELECOMMUNICATIONS** **4-7 YEARS' PQE**  
With solid experience gained within a City Firm or Telecoms Company you will have been involved in all forms of corporate work within the industry. Acting for a variety of clients including investors in the UK cable and communications industries you will also advise on financing, subscriber's agreements and wayleave negotiations. Outside the UK you will help formulate national policies with respect to liberalisation in the industry. Ref: 1505. Contact: Peter Gooden.

**PHARMACEUTICALS - IN HOUSE** **5-8 YEARS' PQE**  
Successful Pharmaceutical firm is offering a broad based role advising across a wide range of the company's activities. Experience of US corporate compliance work and M & A required. Competitive salary and package on offer. Ref: 3281. Contact: Richard Gawn.



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COMMERCIAL LAWYER

## Cayman Islands

## \$Attractive

Our client is a well known Cayman Islands law firm which also has an expanding Corporate Services Department. The firm is currently offering an exciting and unique opportunity for an experienced company commercial lawyer to join its expanding practice. You will undertake an existing workload whilst also helping to expand the firm's current international corporate client base and develop a separate and distinct Company Commercial Department to work closely with their company management portfolio.

The work will be varied and challenging, covering all aspects of company commercial law and including some banking and trust matters. Whilst experience in all these fields is not a prerequisite, confidence and the willingness to get involved is important. You will be an ambitious and proactive solicitor or barrister with at least 5 years post qualification experience gained with a well known firm or chambers and you will relish the prospect of managing your own caseload and helping to develop the practice. The salary will be attractive and will be tax free.

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Jane Foster at Laurence Simons International on 0171 831 3280 or write to her at the address below enclosing a full CV. Any direct or third party applications received by the firm will be forward to us.

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With 1997 predicted to be yet another busy year in corporate finance, our client, a leading European investment bank, wishes to recruit additional top-flight corporate-finance executives.

As part of a non-hierarchical team you will advise corporate, government and institutional clients globally on mergers and acquisitions, flotations and listings, equity and debt finance, restructurings, privatisations, takeovers and disposals.

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In addition to technical expertise, a lively sense of humour and the ability to be an effective team-player are essential. In return, highly-competitive remuneration packages are offered for those who can demonstrate flair and ability.

To discuss this opportunity in complete confidence, please telephone Claire Hine LLB (Hons) or Niru Chandra LLB (Hons). Alternatively, send your CV to either of them at the address below.

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## QD IN-HOUSE LEGAL

**JUNIOR OIL** **Scotland To £Market Rate**  
UK energy company seeks a 1-4 year qualified general company/commercial lawyer for its international division to be based in Scotland specialising in downstream work. Energy experience to date is not pre-requisite but would help. Most important is a genuine enthusiasm for the oil sector. Excellent opportunity to join a high profile company. Ref: TC38068

**EMPLOYEE BENEFITS/SHARE SCHEMES** **To £Comp.**  
International consultancy seeks an experienced employee benefits consultant to join growing Compensation Team. With either a legal or accountancy background you will have between 3-6 years' relevant experience in the executive compensation and share scheme area ideally gained with a top City law firm or accountancy practice. Excellent opportunity to combine your professional skills in a commercial environment. Ref: TC25684

**FINANCIAL SERVICES** **£Various**  
High profile regulatory body seeks ambitious contentious lawyers 1-4 years' poe preferably with focused FSA experience to join their investigation and prosecution teams to advise on issues arising from membership, disciplinary and enforcement functions. A proactive and robust personality is essential. Ref: TC40194

**JUNIOR COMMERCIAL** **London To £Excellent**  
Young dynamic limited company currently seeks to replace its only in-house lawyer at the junior level. This is an interesting in-house role for someone looking for broad ranging general company/commercial work with the emphasis on commercial contract drafting and negotiation. Role involves heavy responsibility and liaison at managerial and Board level. Ref: TC40021

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS** **To £City Rates + Bens**  
The London Headquarters of this new telecommunications company now seeks a 2 year qualified general commercial lawyer with experience of the telecommunications sector. As well as technical ability, the right individual will have a strong commercial outlook and be genuinely interested on the business side. Small, close-knit team and excellent opportunity to be part of a cutting-edge company. Ref: TC39895

**IP/MEDIA** **To £Competitive**  
Major broadcasting house based in Central London seeks two further lawyers to join their business affairs team focusing on both drama and radio. A great opportunity to join a strong, established team where the work is demanding and early responsibility is high. Media lawyers at the 3-5 year level with production experience should apply. Ref: TC39642

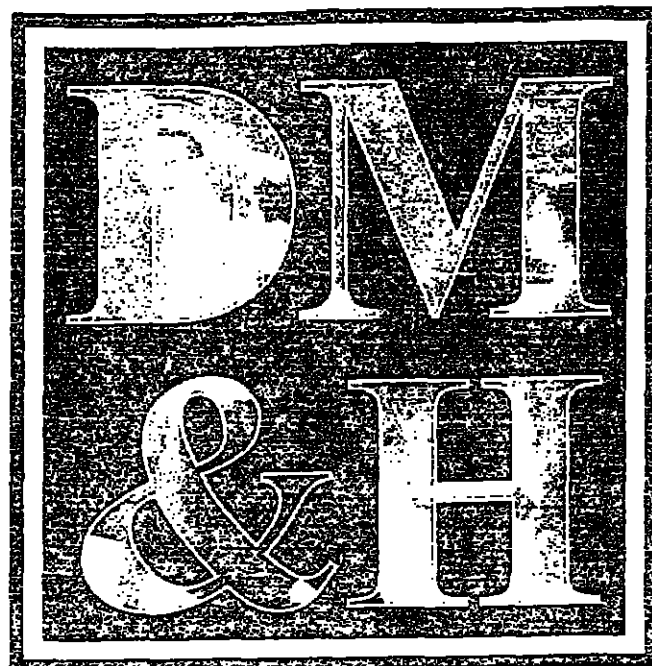
For further information in complete confidence, please contact Rebecca Errington, Michelle McGregor or Jane Maslaid (all qualified lawyers) on 0171-405 6062 (0171-357 0912 evenings/weekends) or write to them at QD In-House Legal, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4EJ. Confidential fax: 0171-431 6394.



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Donne Mileham &amp; Haddock

## SENIOR CORPORATE LAWYER

(Immediate Partnership Prospects)

(5+ YEARS' PQE)

Donne Mileham & Haddock, well established as one of the leading firms in the South East, continues to expand, particularly in the commercial and institutional sectors. There has been a significant increase in the firm's international work.

We are now at a crucial stage of our growth and are seeking to appoint a dynamic, client-orientated corporate lawyer to become an integral part of this high profile commercial client department.

Ideally, you will have at least 5 years' pqr from a leading City/Regional firm with a broad exposure to corporate finance matters. You will have the ability to develop existing contacts and create new opportunities while managing the corporate team.

Work in the corporate team involves a comprehensive range of commercial projects including takeovers, mergers & acquisitions, MBOs, Stock Exchange flotations, franchises and corporate taxation.

At Donne Mileham & Haddock we offer a quality of life which has already attracted ex City lawyers, who now enjoy the benefits of working outside the City while continuing to undertake City type work.

We can offer you responsibility, new opportunities and high quality work coupled with excellent partnership prospects and a competitive remuneration package.



For further information in complete confidence please contact our retained consultants Seamus Hoar or Sarah David on 0171-405 6062 (0171-403 5737 or 0181-789 7704 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Douglall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394.



## APPOINTMENTS TO THE OFFICE OF DISTRICT JUDGE

The Lord Chancellor invites applications from suitably qualified persons for appointment to the office of District Judge. Successful applicants will be recommended to the Lord Chancellor for appointment as District Judge to fill vacancies arising on all circuits between 1 April 1998 and 31 March 1999.

Applicants must have held a right of audience in any class of proceedings in the Supreme Court or in all proceedings in the county courts or Magistrates' Courts for a period of 7 years. They should normally be aged between 40 and 60 on 1 April 1998 and have served in the office of Deputy District Judge (not necessarily on the circuit to which they seek assignment as a District Judge) for a period of 2 years, or completed 40 or more sittings, prior to that date.

The Lord Chancellor will appoint the candidates who appear to him to be best qualified regardless of ethnic origin, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, political affiliation, religion or (subject to the physical requirements of the office) disability.

An application form, together with a job description and note of the criteria for appointment, information about the expected number and location of vacancies and further information for applicants, is available by telephoning 0171 210 1464 (an answering machine will operate outside normal office hours) or by writing to:

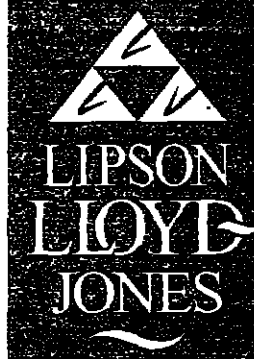
JAD 2 (Applications Unit)  
Lord Chancellor's Department  
Selborne House  
54/60 Victoria Street  
LONDON SW1E 6QW

Completed application forms must be returned by noon on Friday 20 June 1997.

## Can You Deliver?

PP/LONDON	PP/REGIONS/ABROAD	IN-HOUSE
<b>Corporate</b> to £90K City/London based US firms seek lawyers 11Q-5PQE to work on JV, M&A & general finance matters. City candidates only.	<b>Banking</b> to £70K Paris City firms seek lawyers 2-5PQE to handle trade/asset/project finance. Fluents French and banking exp required.	<b>IT-Tech/IT</b> to £55K <b>Banks</b> Commercial lawyer with 2-4PQE and strong IT experience sought by leading co. Top quality work and overseas travel.
<b>Co/Commercial</b> to £50K London/Hampshire firm seeks City lawyer 2-5PQE to handle general co. matters within an intimate work environment.	<b>Shipping Lit</b> £44K Far East niche practice seeks litigators 11Q-5PQE for Hong Kong, Singapore and Shanghai offices to handle dry shipping.	<b>Cap Markets</b> to £70K City Stockbroker seeks two lawyers, one for a capital markets role, the other for documentation work.
<b>Construction</b> to £50K London/Seaside leading City/Hampshire firm seeks solicitors 1-4PQE to handle contentious and/or non-contentious work.	<b>Corp/Commercial</b> £44K Middle East leading UK firm seeks lawyers for positions in their Dubai/Abu Dhabi offices. Must have City background.	<b>IT/Commercial</b> £44K Wests A leading financial institution offers top quality IT commercial work in an idyllic location to lawyers up to 8PQE.
<b>Property</b> to £70K London/Seaside leading City/West End firm seeks quality property lawyers at all levels. Will pay premium rates.	<b>Prof Negligence</b> to £25K Solicitors National firm seeks 11Q-5PQE to deal with negligent professional negligence litigation.	<b>Corp/Commercial</b> to £50K Surrey Commercial firm seeks 11Q-5PQE to seek corporate/banking lawyers 2-4PQE to join fast moving in-house team.
<b>NQ</b> to £22K City/Trip notch firms seek '97 graduates with good academic records for Corporate, IB, Trusts and Property, citations.	<b>Corp/Commercial</b> to £50K Reading/Dynamic firm seeks lawyers 11Q-5PQE to deal with M&A, mergers & acquisitions and Yellow Book work.	<b>Prop Finance</b> to £60K City/London office of overseas bank seeks lawyer with 3-6PQE. Trusts experience an advantage. Marketing skills essential.

Ten years at the top of the legal recruitment tree has equipped us with a wealth of knowledge and contacts in the legal world in London, the regions and abroad. We are therefore uniquely placed to anticipate trends in the market and provide our candidates with well-informed, practical and unbiased career advice. Call one of our consultants now.



For further information contact:

Lucy Boyd  
Jon Garrett  
Lynne McCarroll  
Deborah Knowles  
All lawyers

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London

EC2Y 6BT

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Fax: 0171 600 1972

## construction

city

to £65,000

Either way you win. Whether your experience in construction is contentious or non-contentious, two established and expanding departments can offer attractive forward tracks. A foundation of 3 years pqr (and realistically, a ceiling of 5 years) will take you into the senior ranks of these departments with scope to get your feet firmly under the table prior to the push for partnership. If on the non-contentious side your experience should ideally have a bias towards major projects and give you an overview in both the UK and international arenas. Contact Sue Heslin Ref: 11289

## corporate

hong kong excellent pkge/partnership

Through our association with Swift Legal, a leading Hong Kong consultancy, we have instructions for a high profile appointment with a niche corporate law practice. This is mainstream corporate work with a demonstrably successful team. Ideally about 7 years pqr, you need the commitment to career development in this challenging environment reflected in the generous package and prospects on offer. Contact Stephen Watkins Ref: 11297

## insolvency

wc2

to £50,000

Medium sized commercial firm with highly regarded corporate department and expanding insolvency workload needs insolvency assistant with around 2-4 years' corporate and insolvency experience. Mix of work includes corporate insolvencies, banking, restructurings, voluntary arrangements, receiverships and liquidations in growing group headed by one of London's leading insolvency practitioners. Contact Andrew Hume Browne Ref: 11277

## eu/competition

city

to £60,000

Prominent City firm with offices in Brussels and Paris has a thriving and successful practice in monopoly and merger enquiries, investigations under EU/UK competition rules, advice on general issues of EU law and the regulation of media and broadcasting. You have up to around 4 years' first rate experience and a desire for a challenging and wide-ranging workload, ready for the career move. Contact Stephen Watkins Ref: 10629

hays richard owen, kingsway house, 103 kingsway london wc2b 6qx  
tel 0171 430 2349 fax 0171 831 2536

Hays Richard Owen

## HEAD OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

## Oil &amp; Gas Exploration &amp; Production

Oryx UK Energy Company is a subsidiary of the Dallas based Oryx Energy Company, one of the largest independent oil and gas companies in the world. In the UK Oryx operates the Ninian, Hutton, Murchison and Lyell fields. Its interests embrace production, exploration and transportation.

Oryx UK Energy Company has recently relocated its head office to Aberdeen where it now has an opportunity for an experienced oil industry lawyer to take responsibility for the legal function.

Reporting to the Managing Director, you will provide legal expertise on all aspects of the company's business. You will take a leading role in significant commercial negotiations and provide advice to senior management. You will be assisted by another legal professional.

You are a solicitor or barrister with substantial oil industry experience. Your thorough knowledge of the commercial and legal principles applicable to agreements encountered in exploration, appraisal, development and production are complemented by excellent drafting and negotiating skills.

A key element for success will be the establishment of effective relationships at senior levels based on respect for the quality of your advice and the perception of you as a facilitator of business.

For a confidential discussion concerning this appointment telephone either David Jones or Barbara Digby on 0118 946 3030.

Alternatively, write to them with career and remuneration details at Digby Jay Jones, Oil & Gas - Search - Selection, The Atrium Court, Apex Plaza, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 1AX. Fax: 0118 946 3115.



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## YOUR NEXT PORT OF CALL?

## COMMERCIAL LAWYER

## EXCELLENT PACKAGE



The Mersey Docks and Harbour Company

The Mersey Docks and Harbour Company is the second largest port group in the UK, operating in Liverpool (the most successful free trade zone in Britain), and in Sheerness and Chatham in South East England. They also operate one of the UK's largest port management consultancies, and are involved in coastal shipping operations.

Increased turnover has led to a policy of substantial investment including a proposed new berth at Liverpool, a new berth and coo store facilities at Sheerness and ongoing development of existing

premises The Head Office, based in Liverpool, is seeking to recruit a Commercial Lawyer, with extensive business skills, to work within the Legal Department, reporting to the Director of Legal Services.

A solicitor, with between 2-4 years PQE, you will be working with two other lawyers in a department focused on the key commercial aspects of the business. A good team player, you will nevertheless enjoy considerable responsibility and autonomy. Along with contract negotiation and drafting, you will become involved in such areas as joint ventures, employment and commercial and shipping disputes. You will need, therefore, a real desire to increase your range of skills and to immerse yourself into the culture of the

organisation. The role will also involve liaison with external solicitors where appropriate.

For further details please contact Allison Munro or Katrina Paget, In-House Legal, Joseph's Well, Hanover Walk, Park Lane, Leeds LS3 1AB. Tel: 0113 243 6945. Fax: 0113 245 6347. Tel: 01943 851285. (Evenings and weekends). E-mail: hwggroup@hwgroup.co.uk



## Media Lawyers

Channel 5 invites applications for the following posts:-

1. Business Affairs. The role involves the negotiation and drafting of agreements for commissioned and acquired programming, copyright and rights issues generally, research into legislation affecting the industry and the drafting and negotiation of commercial agreements.
2. Business Affairs/Compliance. A mixed role. The compliance team monitors all commissioned programming and provides support to a team of viewers for acquired programming. In ensuring compliance with Channel 5's ITC obligations. Experience of defamation either in a contentious or non-contentious capacity is essential.

In both cases, sound IT experience and drafting skills are essential together with the ability to work confidently as part of a team supporting colleagues at all levels of the business. Applications for a part time role would be welcomed from those with highly relevant experience either in industry or private practice.

Please apply in writing, enclosing a CV and details of current salary to Carmel Swift, Channel 5 Broadcasting, 22 Long Acre, London WC2E 9LY. Closing date for applications is Friday 30th May 1997.

Channel 5 is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.

## UNIVERSITY OF GLAMORGAN

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## Commercial Lawyers

## Solicitors - Two Years PQE

London

To £50,000, Car, Benefits

Strategically important new appointments in the UK commercial and legal services team of a global business and technology consultancy firm which is the world market leader. Superb career opportunity for outstanding young Solicitors with experience of large IT or outsourcing contracts.

Reporting to the Director of Commercial and Legal Services, the Commercial Managers provide effective pre and post contract advice, guidance and support to line management at executive level.

The roles focus on protecting and optimising the legal and commercial interests of the firm by reviewing, drafting, negotiating and controlling very high value, complex, long term commercial contracts with a significant IT/outsourcing bias.

Commercial Managers are responsible for ensuring business needs are met and facilitating the delivery of sound and profitable contracts both in the UK and internationally. There will be considerable freedom and

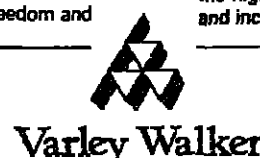
autonomy, with scope for innovation and creativity.

Candidates must be intellectually able and assertive solicitors with a minimum of two years PQE gained in commercial private practice, management consultancy, industry or commerce.

Experience must include close involvement in the legal and commercial aspects of very large outsourcing transactions or IT contracts on behalf of the service provider. Understanding of deal shaping, IP or knowledge capital protection is important.

Appointed candidates will have key responsibilities at the highest level with prospects for outstanding career and income growth in this very prestigious firm.

Please submit a comprehensive career resume including salary details and quoting Reference 11515/TT. Confidentiality is strictly guaranteed.



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If you're GOING HOME, you need to ensure that you return to a firm guaranteed to provide you with the challenge of the world class transactions you came over here to find.

If you're GOING AWAY, you must be certain that you join a firm with an international reputation for excellence which expands your horizons.

Whatever your plans, we'd like you to join us. Arthur Robinson & Hedderwicks is a full service commercial firm and one of Australia's most respected law firms, with over 400 employees in Melbourne alone. Part of the Allens Arthur Robinson Group, it enjoys a network of offices unrivalled in Australia and the Pacific Rim (and there are opportunities for travel accordingly). Its client base comprises many of Australia's leading and highest profile corporations; its partners sit on many of their boards.

We are interested in lawyers qualified in Australia, New Zealand or the United Kingdom with strong academic backgrounds and excellent experience. We pay leading rates and provide relocation assistance.

**QD** For further information in complete confidence please contact Deborah Dalglish or Michelle McGregor on 0171-405 6062 (0181-520 6539 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Douglall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax 0171-831 6394. This recruitment is being handled on an exclusive basis and any direct or third party applications will be forwarded to Quarry Douglall.

**TSD** **Titmuss Sainer Dechert**

**HEAD OF BANKING**

Our Banking Group is responsible for giving transactional support and advice to several well-known lenders, as well as borrowers, on a wide range of finance matters.

At Titmuss Sainer Dechert, as a result of our union with the US law firm Dechert Price & Rhoads, we enjoy all the benefits of:

- Working in a medium sized full service City firm.
- The support of over 500 lawyers in ten offices in the US and Europe.
- Doing high quality UK and international work.

Now we need someone to lead our Banking Group through its next stage of development. The ideal candidate will be a bright and ambitious senior assistant or young partner in an established banking practice, who is ready to take on the challenge of team management and practice development. Technical know-how, marketing flair and leadership skills are prerequisites.

**QD** If you want to find out more, please contact Greg Abrahams or Alison Jacobs in complete confidence on 0171 405 6062 (0171 731 5699 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Douglall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax 0171 831 6394.

**SOLICITORS 4-6 YEARS' PQE**

While many commercial firms of our size are turning away from the private client, charities and trust work, we take the opposite view: we not only remain but are increasingly committed to these areas of our practice and have gained an excellent reputation for the quality and depth of our work.

**PRIVATE CLIENT/TAX**

The innovative tax planning expertise of our private client team has resulted in increasing national and international recognition. This has fuelled the continued rapid growth of our client base of wealthy individuals in the UK and abroad.

In response to this, we seek a solicitor to work with the existing team in devising and implementing tax planning strategies for our clients. Significant experience of onshore and offshore trusts, wills and tax planning is essential. Bright junior assistants with potential to develop quickly are also encouraged to apply.

**CHARITY LAW**

Working in all aspects of charity formation, organisation, administration and tax matters, our charity group has rapidly become acknowledged as one of the leading providers of legal services to this sector. Clients include national and international charities, NHS Trusts as well as a number of significant charitable trusts and foundations.

We currently need to recruit an additional solicitor whose expertise in charity law and client skills will allow him/her to play a key role and make a significant contribution to the development of the practice.

These are key positions in one of London's most exciting private client departments. The remuneration package and scope for career development will reflect this.

To apply, please write, enclosing a CV, to Fiona McLaren, Personnel Director, Speechly Bircham, Bouverie House, 154 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2HX.



**HEAD OF LEGAL  
AND ADMINISTRATION SERVICES**

**M I D L A N D S**

Created from an MBO more than six years ago, our client, a market leader in the plastic packaging industry, employs in excess of 3,000 staff both in the UK and across Europe; with an enviable blue chip customer base, turnover has increased dramatically in the last year following a major acquisition and is now in excess of £200 million across eight countries.

Responsibility will include the review and implementation of recommendations in collaboration with Directors and Senior Managers across a diverse range of legal matters, including acquisitions and disposals, property, contracts, employment and pension law, intellectual property rights, one-off project based tasks and Company Secretarial and Administrative issues.

Due to the retirement of an original member of the MBO team, a rare opportunity has arisen for the right candidate to contribute directly to decision-making and achieving business objectives.

Candidates will have no less than 4 years' relevant experience, either in private practice or industry (possibly within a manufacturing environment); be confident operating at senior level, with a hands on practical approach and be capable of influencing others. A European language would be advantageous although not essential. This is a rare opportunity with significant potential for personal growth and development in the progressive manufacturing environment of plastic packaging.

Reporting directly to the Chief Executive, this role will demand a high degree of autonomy and an appreciation of the commercial demands of industry.

Please write, enclosing your CV, to Carolyn Jeffs or Tracy Haran, Wellman-Smith, 26-28 Bridlesmith Gate, Nottingham NG1 2GQ. Alternatively, for an initial discussion in confidence, please telephone on 0115 941 5111 (evenings and weekends on 0116 287 8751).

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legal search & selection

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PENSIONS SPECIALIST**  
c. £30K + BENEFITS  
CITY BASED

The company is an established plc offering a sophisticated range of support services to the Construction, Engineering and Advertising industries. Turnover exceeds £50m per annum with 60 retail outlets in the UK and planned expansion in Europe and the Far East.

This new position, reporting to the Group Finance Director, is required to manage a growing property portfolio and other key responsibilities include Insurance, Pensions administration and Company Secretarial matters.

Candidates should be educated to degree level, ideally a qualified Chartered Secretary or Lawyer with 2 to 3 years' experience of property management and pensions administration within a similar multi-site commercial environment.

Success in the role will be achieved through expert knowledge practically applied, proven negotiating skills, common sense and the ability to react to the ever-changing priorities in a highly competitive business.

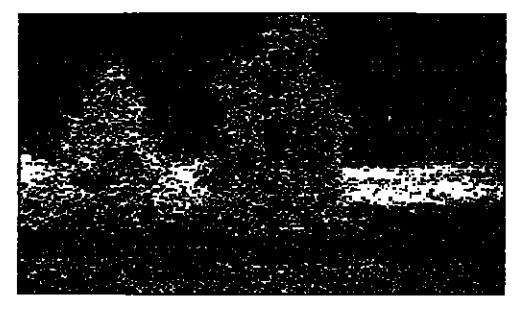
Send your written applications and a comprehensive c.v., quoting reference no. VHT/1 care of Vernon Holmes, Riley Advertising, 4 Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, London EC4A 3EN.

Closing date: 2nd June 1997.

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**EXCITING PROPERTY AND CONSTRUCTION OPENINGS**

You know us for our construction expertise. But with the help of our clients we're expanding, taking in new disciplines and areas of expertise as more people realise the attraction of our practice. We've added corporate, now we're building on property.

The work is here. Our corporate and construction clients produce high quality property instructions, nationally and internationally, as do locally based businesses. We're flexible too on experience. We are looking for:-

**COMMERCIAL PROPERTY**  
A 4 plus year qualified property lawyer who is ambitious or a well established partner looking for a change.

**CONSTRUCTION LAWYER**  
A 2-5 year qualified lawyer with strong construction litigation and arbitration experience, ideally with some non-contentious exposure.

Either way, we're looking for people who'll share our enthusiasm. People who want to help build a practice group and who are committed to achieving dynamic growth without compromising on quality.

On offer is the chance to join an experienced and motivated team which is already making a name for itself and with a competitive London package.

**QD** To find out more, please contact our retained consultants Alison Jacobs or Sarah David on 0171-405 6062 (0181-789 7704 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Douglall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax 0171-831 6394. This assignment is being handled on an exclusive basis by Quarry Douglall and all direct or third party applications will be forwarded to them.



## CLEARY, GOTTlieb, STEEN & HAMILTON

Our London office, which was established in 1971, is primarily involved in international finance and M&A work of all kinds and advises multinational companies, investment and commercial banks and other participants in the world financial markets.

We are seeking English qualified solicitors with between 2-4 years' post qualification experience in banking, tax or capital markets work to join our English team.

The London office currently has approximately 30 lawyers, who are qualified in a number of jurisdictions, principally in New York and England.



For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Seamus Hoar or Kate Sutcliffe on 0171-405-6062 (0171-405-5727 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougal Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4EJ. Confidential fax 0171-831-6394.

## SHORT-TERM CONTRACTS GIVING YOU GREATER FLEXIBILITY

### RESIDENTIAL CONVEYANCING

Independent, medium-sized firm seeks a senior legal executive or 2-3 year qualified solicitor to help clear a backlog of work. Applicants will be reporting on mortgage offers, dealing with post-completion matters and other general day-to-day correspondence. Contract will be for 2-3 months to start immediately. Ref: 40030

### PRIVATE CLIENT

Major City firm seeks an experienced private client lawyer to work on an unsupervised basis. Candidates must have experience of trusts and personal tax and have worked in a similar environment. Contract to start as soon as possible and may become permanent. Ref: 40033

### CORPORATE

Senior corporate assistant sought by this small niche practice. Contract will be open-ended and candidates will be dealing with both domestic and international work. Ref: 40133

### PLAINTIFF PERSONAL INJURY

Experienced solicitor sought by this national firm for one of their regional offices. Contract will be for 3 months. Applicants must have up-to-date plaintiff personal injury experience. Ref: 40142

### CAPITAL MARKETS

Investment house seeks a solicitor/barrister with around 2 years' exp to assist with a heavy workload. Candidates should ideally have experience of master agreements, ISDA documentation and repos. Ref: 37953

### EMPLOYMENT

Leading engineering/construction company based in the Home Counties seeks a solicitor/barrister with 3+ years' experience to assist senior solicitor in department. Experience of industrial tribunal advocacy would be advantageous and contract could become permanent. Ref: 39545

### PROFESSIONAL NEGLIGENCE

Large legal department of finance house based in the Midlands needs a 4-8 year qualified solicitor/barrister. Contract is for 3-6 months, and requires specialist expertise of professional negligence against solicitors and valuers. Ref: 39992

### COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Small, but well regarded City firm, requires a 2-8 year qualified solicitor with a broad base of experience including landlord and tenant matters. Contract is for about 3 months whilst they pursue a permanent search. Ref: 39493

### NON FEE-EARNING

Banking lawyer sought by the London office of a leading American law firm to assist with updating precedents and in particular with the drafting of finance procedures. Position could be part or full-time. Ref: 39613

### EMERGING MARKETS

London based investment bank seeks a solicitor/barrister with a minimum of 3 years' experience in emerging markets to join the legal team for a 3-6 month contract. Experience required must include funded loans, securities and repos. Immediate start. Ref: 39709



For further information please call Nicky Rathford-Jones or Emma Anderson on 0171-405 6062 (0171-350 0682 or 0181-540 2381 evenings/weekends) or write to us at Special Project Lawyer, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4EJ. Confidential fax 0171 831 6394.

SPL is a QD Company

## YOUR WAY AHEAD

Corporate Partners - Bristol & Cardiff



### THE POSITIONS

To achieve our objectives we are now seeking to make two major strategic partner-level appointments.

Both positions require broad-based experience with a City or large regional firm, with a demonstrable record of achievement - not only of business generation but also leading, managing and developing a team. At our principal office in Bristol we are looking for a senior corporate lawyer with an established track record in corporate finance, M&Bs and MBOs. For our Cardiff office we seek a motivated company commercial lawyer to take on the challenge of building a team in this highly competitive but flourishing market.

At Bevan Ashford we are ambitious and forward thinking, within an open and friendly environment. These are important appointments towards our strategy and an excellent reward package will reflect that importance.

**BEVAN  
ASHFORD**  
SOLICITORS

Please contact our retained recruitment advisers, all of whom are lawyers, at Quarry Dougal in London or Birmingham. Gareth Quarry, Rebecca Errington or Kate Sutcliffe, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4EJ. Tel: 0171-405 6062 (0181-789 9933 evenings/weekends) William Cook or Chris Coyle at Cornhill Buildings, 45 Newhall Street, Birmingham B3 3QR. Tel: 0121 212 9555 (0121-707 1371 evenings/weekends).



## An Opportunity in Banking Law Field of specialisation: accounting and banking supervisory law Berlin-based

The

## Association of German Public Sector Banks

is looking for a jurist specialising in banking law. Applicants should currently be working for a British or American bank; have experience in British/US and German law, mainly in the field of accounting and international banking supervision. German should be native language or first foreign language. Applications from women candidates are particularly encouraged. Age: around 40. First based in Bonn, later (after 1st January 1999) in Berlin.

The Association of German Public Sector Banks is one of the German banking industry associations, with offices in Berlin, Bonn and Brussels. It represents over 50 banks, which together account for roughly one-quarter of the combined balance sheet of all German banks.

Please respond by calling Dr Bernd Luethje at +49-2 28-81 92 200. (Bonn) during office hours; Monday to Friday (don't send written application). Evenings or weekends: call +49-21 04-5 34 48 (Mettmann) at a reasonable hour.



## Associate Professor/Assistant Professor in the Department of Law

Applications are invited for appointment as Associate Professor or Assistant Professor in the Department of Law (RF-96/97-76), tenable from January 1, 1998. Appointment will be made initially on a fixed-term basis of 3.5 years, with a possibility of renewal.

Applicants should possess a good degree in law from a common law jurisdiction as well as a postgraduate degree in law, be capable of teaching basic common law subjects, and have an interest in legal research. Knowledge of Hong Kong law would be preferred and applications from candidates with competence to teach commercial law and/or criminal law subjects would be especially welcome. An indication of the applicant's teaching and research interests should be provided in the application. Applicants for appointment as Associate Professor should have a strong publication record and have demonstrated a commitment to teaching.

Applicants should specify whether they are applying for Associate Professor or Assistant Professor.

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RACING: FABRE-TRAINED COLT TO REPRESENT SHEIKH MOHAMMED IN DERBY

# Cloudings offers ray of hope

By JULIAN MUSCAT

CLOUDINGS, owned by Sheikh Mohammed, will ensure that the world's largest owner is represented in the Derby, despite the temporary closure of the Sheikh's Godolphin stable. Unless the ground is rock-hard at Epsom on June 7, Cloudings will run on the recommendation of his trainer, André Fabre.

The son of Sadler's Wells is expected to be ridden by Olivier Peslier, who, in the wake of Godolphin's tribulations, seems certain to lose the Derby mount aboard Benny The Dip to Frankie Dettori. With Happy Valentine having been removed from the betting yesterday, Godolphin's last



The unbeaten Indiscreet attempts to advance his Derby claims in the Predominate Stakes at Goodwood today

**Nap: GRAPESHOT**  
(3.40 Goodwood)  
**Next best: Monassib**  
(4.45 Goodwood)

Derby possibility is Stowaway, entered at Doncaster on Saturday but far from certain to run.

Peslier partnered the John Gosden-trained Benny The Dip to win the Dante Stakes at York last week but Gosden, whose Stanley House stables has first claim on Dettori, is anxious that the Italian should renew his partnership with Benny The Dip.

It was Peslier who rode Cloudings last time out, when the colt worked hard to master the handicapper, Zenith Rose, in the slowly run Prix Lupin at Longchamp nine days ago. Nevertheless, Fabre's endorsement of Cloudings will see the colt's odds tumble from the 33-1 widely available.

Historically, Fabre has been

reluctant to send anything other than suitable candidates to Epsom. Anthony Stroud, racing manager to Sheikh Mohammed, said yesterday: "The trainer likes Cloudings. He describes him as a well-balanced colt, who should be comfortable around the course. He is improving and he has a good turn of foot, and Fabre has reminded us we should not be afraid of one horse. Cloudings deserves his chance but he must obviously improve to take a hand."

In view of Fabre's opinion of Cloudings, the colt may have

been unsuited to the testing surface at Longchamp last time. Entrepreneur's connections will hardly lose sleep over the participation of Cloudings, but the colt adds some badly needed depth to the Derby field.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Mohammed is likely to be represented in the Prix du Jockey Club (French Derby) by Perfect Paradigm, whose sights have been raised from the Italian equivalent. Trained like Benny The Dip, by Gosden, Perfect Paradigm comfortably defied top weight

in a Chester handicap earlier this month and Flirting Around, who chased him home, has since prevailed at York. But Apprehension, another in the Sheikh's Harem, is to miss the Derby in favour of the King Edward VII Stakes at Royal Ascot.

David Loder, who trains Apprehension, may yet be represented at Epsom by Indiscreet, who contests the final recognised Derby trial, the Westminster Tax Insurance Predominate Stakes (3.40), at Goodwood today. But Indiscreet only just scrambled

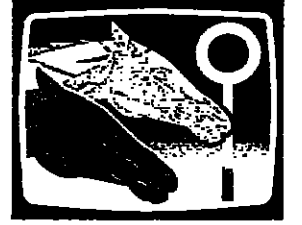
home in a poor race at Beverley ten days ago; he is best watched.

Grapeshot is a more attractive proposition. An honest colt, he ran well in defeat behind Desert Stormy in the Craven Stakes last time and that form is a cut above anything yet recorded by his five opponents. Conon Falls represents the Gosden stable, but he seemed sure to appreciate further than this ten furlongs when successful over the trip in minor company at Chester recently. He looks the one Grapeshot has to beat.

## Just Nick to gain deserved success

GOODWOOD - BBC1

2.40: Broad River enjoyed a recent confidence booster at Redcar and could be well treated. However, his inexperience causes concern. The handicapper seems to have Zaima's measure, while Green Jewel may be anchored by a 4lb rise. Just Nick, a good second to Tayseer at York last week, merits the vote to continue his progress.



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

3.10: Both Diligence and Be My Wish showed promise at Chester recently. They could both be up against a born speedster in Shegardi, who cost 200,000gns as a yearling. A half-brother to Titus Livius, Shegardi should not fall through inexperience.

3.40: see left.

4.10: Gold Spats shaped with promise on his Kempton return, giving the impression we have yet to see the best of him. He should again account for Star Talent. Capilano Princess looks the danger after a convincing recent victory.

JULIAN MUSCAT

## RUGBY UNION

# Lions get early exposure to heat exhaustion

FROM DAVID HANDS  
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT, IN DURBAN

IF SUCCESSFUL tours are built on sweat — the blood and tears may come later — then the 1997 British Lions have started well. The players perspired in 80°F of South African heat at King's Park here yesterday, the solitary exception being Paul Grayson, who is likely to miss the opening game on Saturday against an Eastern Province invitation XV.

Grayson, the Northampton stand-off half, has had an adverse muscular reaction to the intensive goal-kicking practice he has been doing and requires a further two days of rest. Having recovered from the hip injury that kept him out of action for the last two months of the domestic season, he does not want to return prematurely and put his whole tour at risk.

Yet little more than 24 hours after arrival in South Africa, his colleagues discovered the management to be in unforgiving mood. Jim Telfer, whose aggressive approach to training is legendary beyond his South African boundaries, felt the physical intensity of the morning was no higher than three or four out of ten, but for all that, even the warm-ups involved a physicality that is a hint of what is to come.

"We trained in a bit of discomfort — I don't think it can get much hotter than that — but it's less likely to surprise us if it stays like this," Ian McGeechan, the coach, said. "We will build the intensity through the week." The intensity yesterday left Jeremy Davidson, the Ireland lock, with a stiff neck, while a viral infection allowed Alan Tait, the Scotland centre, to miss the closing stages of a 24-hour session.

As important to the Lions, who will name their first team tomorrow, was the management meeting with Steve Strydom and Freek Burger, respectively chairman and manager of the South African Rugby Football Union's referee development programme. Strydom returned last week from a meeting of southern hemisphere officials in New Zealand, where concerns arising from the Super 12 tournament were discussed.

"We need to understand what the referees will be

looking for and which areas they see as important," McGeechan said. "We have to be able to adapt to that. I don't want us to find the problems when we're on the field." Lineouts have dwindled in the Super 12 tournament and scrums have increased.

South African officials have been allocated to the provincial matches, but the international referees invited to officiate at the three internationals — Paddy O'Brien, of New Zealand, Joël Duménil, of France, and Peter Marshall, of Australia — must be confirmed by their respective unions.

In the light of this, the players endured a heavy programme with the scrummage machine at King's Park as the front-row men tried to discover each other's foibles. Keith Wood, for example, is taller than the other two hookers. Mark Regan and Barry Williams (whose transfer from



Grayson: muscle reaction

Neath to Richmond was confirmed yesterday) and the props have to adjust, so there was a stream of advice and encouragement from the two senior front-row forwards, Jason Leonard and David Young.

But the Britons have also to beware the Super 12 entertainment trap. Referees are encouraged to keep play fluid, bonus points are available for try-scoring and crowds have flocked to watch the better teams, notably Auckland Blues, Wellington Hurricanes and the ACT Brumbies. "Test match rugby is still different, simply because of the sheer competitiveness of it," McGeechan observed.

## England players get quickly into stride

ENGLAND'S travel-weary players got down to business yesterday after arriving in Argentina for the start of their three-week tour. Phil de Glanville, the captain, led the 30-man squad through a light training session in Cordoba, where England tackle Argentina's state champions under floodlights tomorrow night.

The players had endured an exhausting 20-hour journey, which included delays at Madrid airport and São Paulo, where fog prevented take-off for more than an hour.

There are no easy games on this trip, "de Glanville said,

"and Cordoba certainly have an opportunity to catch us cold, given that we play them barely 48 hours after stepping off a plane."

"There is no time to find our feet. We've got to go out there and get on with the job immediately. I want to win all six matches, especially both Tests against Argentina."

De Glanville's Bath colleague, the wing, Adedayo Adebayo, is confident he will make the starting line-up against Cordoba, despite an ankle injury. He is among 11 full internationals in the four squad.

**THUNDERER**

2.10 Selfish	3.40 Further Outlook
2.40 Just Nick	4.10 Arterxerxes
3.10 SHEGARDI (nap)	4.45 Monassib

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.40 Broad River, 3.40 Grapeshot, 4.10 GOLD SPATS (nap).

**GOING: GOOD DRAW: 5F-1M, HIGH NUMBERS BEST**

**TOTE JACKPOT: 25.00 SIS**

**2.10 TREHEARNE & NORMAN MAIDEN STAKES**  
(3-Y-O; £4,850; 1m) (4 runners)

102 (1)	STAR WINDER (M) (4 years)	100/1	J. Tait
103 (2)	STAR WINDER (M) (4 years)	100/1	J. Tait
104 (3)	STAR WINDER (M) (4 years)	100/1	J. Tait
105 (4)	STAR WINDER (M) (4 years)	100/1	J. Tait

RETIRED: 106 (5) Star Winder (M) (4 years) 100/1. 107 (6) Star Winder (M) (4 years) 100/1. 108 (7) Star Winder (M) (4 years) 100/1. 109 (8) Star Winder (M) (4 years) 100/1.

**2.40 CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE HANDICAP**  
(3-Y-O; £7,375; 7f) (9 runners)

201 (1)	CAPTAIN COLLINS (M) (3 years)	100/1	J. Tait
202 (2)	CAPTAIN COLLINS (M) (3 years)	100/1	J. Tait
203 (3)	CAPTAIN COLLINS (M) (3 years)	100/1	J. Tait
204 (4)	CAPTAIN COLLINS (M) (3 years)	100/1	J. Tait
205 (5)	CAPTAIN COLLINS (M) (3 years)	100/1	J. Tait
206 (6)	CAPTAIN COLLINS (M) (3 years)	100/1	J. Tait
207 (7)	CAPTAIN COLLINS (M) (3 years)	100/1	J. Tait
208 (8)	CAPTAIN COLLINS (M) (3 years)	100/1	J. Tait
209 (9)	CAPTAIN COLLINS (M) (3 years)	100/1	J. Tait

RETIRED: 210 (10) Captain Collins (M) (3 years) 100/1. 211 (11) Captain Collins (M) (3 years) 100/1. 212 (12) Captain Collins (M) (3 years) 100/1. 213 (13) Captain Collins (M) (3 years) 100/1. 214 (14) Captain Collins (M) (3 years) 100/1. 215 (15) Captain Collins (M) (3 years) 100/1. 216 (16) Captain Collins (M) (3 years) 100/1. 217 (17) Captain Collins (M) (3 years) 100/1. 218 (18) Captain Collins (M) (3 years) 100/1. 219 (19) Captain Collins (M) (3 years) 100/1. 220 (20) Captain Collins (M) (3 years) 100/1.

**2.55 VANBOROUGH LAD**  
(3-Y-O; £1,500; 1m) (4 runners)

101 (1)	VANBOROUGH LAD (M) (3 years)	100/1	J. Tait
102 (2)	VANBOROUGH LAD (M) (3 years)	100/1	J. Tait
103 (3)	VANBOROUGH LAD (M) (3 years)	100/1	J. Tait
104 (4)	VANBOROUGH LAD (M) (3 years)	100/1	J. Tait

RETIRED: 105 (5) Vanborough Lad (M) (3 years) 100/1. 106 (6) Vanborough Lad (M) (3 years) 100/1. 107 (7) Vanborough Lad (M) (3 years) 100/1. 108 (8) Vanborough Lad (M) (3 years) 100/1. 109 (9) Vanborough Lad (M) (3 years) 100/1. 110 (10) Vanborough Lad (M) (3 years) 100/1. 111 (11) Vanborough Lad (M) (3 years) 100/1. 112 (12) Vanborough Lad (M) (3 years) 100/1. 113 (13) Vanborough Lad (M) (3 years) 100/1. 114 (14) Vanborough Lad (M) (3 years) 100/1. 115 (15) Vanborough Lad (M) (3 years) 100/1. 116 (16) Vanborough Lad (M) (3 years) 100/1. 117 (17) Vanborough Lad (M) (3 years) 100/1. 118 (18) Vanborough Lad (M) (3 years) 100/1. 119 (19) Vanborough Lad (M) (3 years) 100/1. 120 (20) Vanborough Lad (M) (3 years) 100/1.

**3.15 DIM OTS**  
(3-Y-O; £1,500; 1m) (4 runners)

101 (1)	DIM OTS (M) (3 years)	100/1	J. Tait
102 (2)	DIM OTS (M) (3 years)	100/1	J. Tait
103 (3)	DIM OTS (M) (3 years)	100/1	J. Tait
104 (4)	DIM OTS (M) (3 years)	100/1	J. Tait

RETIRED: 105 (5) Dim Ots (M) (3 years) 100/1. 106 (6) Dim Ots (M) (3 years) 100/1. 107 (7) Dim Ots (M) (3 years) 100/1. 108 (8) Dim Ots (M) (3 years) 100/1. 109 (9) Dim Ots (M) (3 years) 100/1. 110 (10) Dim Ots (M) (3 years) 100/1. 111 (11) Dim Ots (M) (3 years) 100/1. 112 (12) Dim Ots (M) (3 years) 100/1. 113 (13) Dim Ots (M) (3 years) 100/1. 114 (14) Dim Ots (M) (3 years) 100/1. 115 (15) Dim Ots (M) (3 years) 100/1. 116 (16) Dim Ots (M) (3 years) 100/1. 117 (17) Dim Ots (M) (3 years) 100/1. 118 (18) Dim Ots (M) (3 years) 100/1. 119 (19) Dim Ots (M) (3 years) 100/1. 120 (20) Dim Ots (M) (3 years) 100/1.

**3.45 CAUDA EQUINA**  
(3-Y-O; £1,500; 1m) (4 runners)

101 (1)	CAUDA EQUINA (M) (3 years)	100/1	J. Tait
102 (2)	CAUDA EQUINA (M) (3 years)	100/1	J. Tait
103 (3)	CAUDA EQUINA (M) (3 years)	100/1	J. Tait
104 (4)	CAUDA EQUINA (M) (3 years)	100/1	J. Tait

RETIRED: 105 (5) Cauda Equina (M) (3 years) 100/1. 106 (6) Cauda Equina (M) (3 years) 100/1. 107 (7) Cauda Equina (M) (3 years) 100/1. 108 (8) Cauda Equina (M) (3 years) 100/1. 109 (9) Cauda Equina (M) (3 years) 100/1. 110 (10) Cauda Equina (M) (3 years) 100/1. 111 (11) Cauda Equina (M) (3 years) 100/1. 112 (12) Cauda Equina (M) (3 years) 100/1. 113 (13) Cauda Equina (M) (3 years) 100/1. 114 (14) Cauda Equina (M) (3 years) 100/1. 115 (15) Cauda Equina (M) (3 years) 100/1. 116 (16) Cauda Equina (M) (3 years) 100/1. 117 (17) Cauda Equina (M) (3 years) 100/1. 118 (18) Cauda Equina (M) (3 years) 100/1. 119 (19) Cauda Equina (M) (3 years) 100/1. 120 (20) Cauda Equina (M) (3 years) 100/1.

**RACELINE**

0930 1684

GOODWOOD 101 201  
BEVERLEY 102 202  
GROUNDS 122 222

101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319 320 321 322 323 324 325 326 327 328 329 330 331 332 333 334 335 336 337 338 339 340 341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 350 351 352 353 354 355 356 357 358 359 360 361 362 363 364 365 366 367 368 369 370 371 372 373 374 375 376 377 378 379 380 381 382 383 384 385 386 387 388 389 390 391 392 393 394 395 396 397 398 399 400 401 402 403 404 405 406 407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419 420 421 422 423 424 425 426 427 428 429 430 431 432 433 434 435 436 437 438 439 440 441 442 443 444 445 446 447 448 449 450 451 452 453 454 455 456 457 458 459 460 461 462 463 464 465 466 467 468 469 470 471 472 473 474 475 476 477 478 479 480 481 482 483 484 485 486 487 488 489 490 491 492 493 494 495 496 497 498 499 500 501 502 503 504 505 506 507 508 509 510 511 512 513 514 515 516 517 518 519 520 521 522 523 524 525 526 527 528 529 530 531 532 533 534 535 536 537 538 539 540 541 542 543 544 545 546 547 548 549 550 551 552 553 554 555 556 557 558 559 560 561 562 563 564 565 566 567 568 569 570 571 572 573 574 575 576 577 578 579 580 581 582 583 584 585 586 587 588 589 590 591 592 593 594 595 596 597 598 599 600 601 602 603 604 605 606 607 608 609 610 611 612 613 614 615 616 617 618 619 620 621 622 623 624 625 626 627 628 629 630 631 632 633 634 635 636 637 638 639 640 641 642 643 644 645 646 647 648 649 650 651 652 653 654 655 656 657 658 659 660 661 662 663 664 665 666 667 668 669 670 671 672 673 674 675 676 677 678 679 680 681 682 683 684 685 686 687 688 689 690 691 692 693 694 695 696 697 698 699 700 701 702 703 704 705 706 707 708 709 710 711 712 713 714 715 716 717 718 719 720 721 722 723 724 725 726 727 728 729 730 731 732 733 734 735 736 737 738 739 740 741 742 743 744 745 746 747 748 749 750 751 752 753 754 755 756 757 758 759 760 761 762 763 764 765 766 767 768 769 770 771 772 773 774 775 776 777 778 779 780 781 782 783 784 785 786 787 788 789 790 791 792 793 794 795 796 797 798 799 800 801 802 803 804 805 806 807 808 809 810 811 812 813 814 815 816 817 818 819 820 821 822 823 824 825 826 827 828 829 830 831 832 833 834 835 836 837 838 839 840 841 842 843 844 845 846 847 848 849 850 851 852 853 854 855 856 857 858 859 860 861 862 863 864 865 866 867 868 869 870 871 872 873 874 875 876 877 878 879 880 881 882 883 884 885 886 887 888 889 890 891 892 893 894 895 896 897 898 899 900 901 902 903 904 905 906 907 908 909 910 911 912 913 914 915 916 917 918 919 920 921 922 923 924 925 926 927 928 929 930 931 932 933 934 935 936 937 938 939 940 941 942 943 944 945 946 947 948 949 950 951 952 953 954 955 956 957 958 959 960 961 962 963 964 965 966 967 968 969 970 971 972 973 974 975 976 977 978 979 980 981 982 983 984 985 986 987 988 989 990 991 992 993 994 995 996 997 998 999 1000

**GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD**

103 (12) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 104 (13) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 105 (14) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 106 (15) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 107 (16) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 108 (17) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 109 (18) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 110 (19) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 111 (20) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 112 (21) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 113 (22) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 114 (23) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 115 (24) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 116 (25) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 117 (26) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 118 (27) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 119 (28) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 120 (29) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 121 (30) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 122 (31) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 123 (32) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 124 (33) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 125 (34) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 126 (35) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 127 (36) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 128 (37) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 129 (38) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 130 (39) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 131 (40) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 132 (41) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 133 (42) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 134 (43) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 135 (44) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 136 (45) 0-452 GOOD TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.S.) (M) (3 years) 100/1. 137 (46) 0-4



## The ITF players, their points and their values if you are considering the transfer option

Code	Name	Team	Pos	Points	Value
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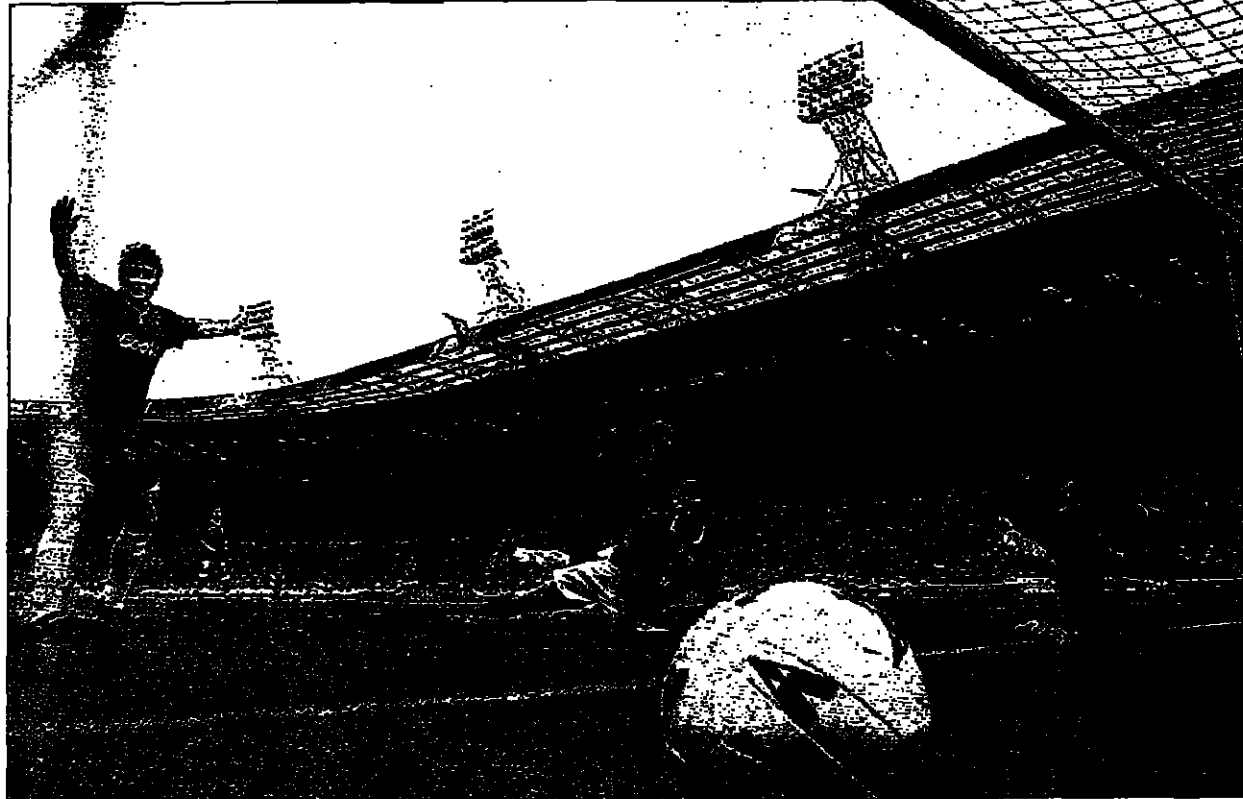
10101	M Watt	Aberdeen	1.50	0 -12
10102	N Walker	Aberdeen	1.00	0 -14
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	0 +36
10202	V Bertram	Arsenal	0.75	0 0
10203	J Lukic	Arsenal	0.75	0 +1
10301	M Bosnich	Aston Villa	3.50	0 +31
10302	M Oakes	Aston Villa	1.00	0 +17
10401	T Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0 -7
10402	S Given	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0 +4
10501	G Marshall	Celtic	3.50	0 +8
10502	S Kerr	Celtic	3.00	0 +30
10601	D Kharine	Chelsea	2.50	0 +10
10602	K Hitchcock	Chelsea	2.00	0 -28
10603	F Grodas	Chelsea	3.00	+5 +4
10701	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.50	0 -42
10702	J Finn	Coventry City	0.50	0 0
10801	M Taylor	Derby County	1.00	0 -2
10802	R Hault	Derby County	1.00	0 -41
10804	M Poom	Derby County	1.00	0 -8
10901	A Maxwell	Dundee United	0.50	0 +4
10902	L Key	Dundee United	0.50	0 -10
10903	S Dykstra	Dundee United	2.50	0 -59
11001	I Westwater	Durham	2.50	0 -36
11101	N Southall	Everton	2.50	0 +1
11103	P Gerrard	Everton	2.00	0 -5
11201	G Rousset	Hibernian	1.50	0 -30
11301	J Leighton	Hibernian	1.00	0 -32
11401	D Lekovic	Kilmarnock	1.50	0 +5
11501	M Beeny	Leeds United	0.25	0 0
11502	P Evans	Leeds United	2.50	0 +40
11503	N Martin	Leeds United	1.00	0 -19
11601	K Pools	Leicester City	1.00	0 -20
11603	K Keller	Leicester City	1.00	0 -20
11701	D James	Liverpool	5.00	0 +10
11702	T Warner	Liverpool	0.50	0 0
11703	J Nielsen	Liverpool	0.50	0 +8
11801	P Schmeichel	Manchester United	1.00	0 +2
11802	R van der Gouw	Manchester United	1.50	0 -20
11901	G Walsh	Middlesbrough	1.50	0 -3
11903	B Roberts	Middlesbrough	2.00	0 -3
11904	M Schwarzer	Middlesbrough	2.00	0 -3
12001	S Howie	Motherwell	1.50	0 -18
12101	S Hisslop	Newcastle United	3.00	0 +20
12102	S Smick	Newcastle United	2.50	0 -49
12201	M Crossley	Nottingham Forest	0.75	0 -8
12202	A Fettes	Nottingham Forest	0.50	0 -78
12301	S Thomson	Raith Rovers	5.00	0 +25
12401	A Gorum	Rangers	3.50	0 +7
12402	A Dibble	Rangers	2.00	0 -15
12501	K Pressman	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0 -3
12502	M Clarke	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0 -28
12601	D Beasant	Southampton	0.25	0 +2
12602	N Moss	Southampton	1.00	0 +7
12701	L Perez	Sunderland	0.50	0 -38
12801	T Coton	Sunderland	1.00	0 -1
12802	I Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0 -2
12901	L Mladik	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0 -20
13001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	1.00	0 +2
13002	P Head	Wimbledon	1.00	0 -4

Code	Name	Team	Pos	Points	Value
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20101	S McKimmie	Aberdeen	2.00	0 +8
20102	D Dixon	Aberdeen	3.00	0 +38
20201	N Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00	0 +49
20301	S Staunton	Aston Villa	3.00	0 +43
20302	A Wright	Aston Villa	3.00	0 +67
20303	G Charles	Aston Villa	2.50	0 0
20305	F Nelson	Aston Villa	3.00	0 +50
20401	H Berg	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0 +30
20403	G Le Saux	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0 +19
20404	G Croft	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	0 +2
20501	J McNamara	Celtic	3.00	0 +38
20502	T McKinlay	Celtic	3.00	0 +31
20601	D Petruscu	Chelsea	3.00	+4 +34
20602	S Clarke	Chelsea	2.50	+4 +10
20603	M Little	Chelsea	1.00	0 +3
20701	D Burrows	Coventry City	1.50	0 -12
20703	B Borrows	Coventry City	1.00	0 -10
20704	M Hall	Coventry City	1.00	0 +6
20801	C Powell	Derby County	1.50	0 +8
20802	D Yates	Derby County	1.00	0 +4
20901	M Malpas	Dundee United	1.00	0 +55
20902	P Doolan	Dundee United	2.00	0 +20
20903	N Duffy	Dundee United	0.50	0 +9
21001	C Miller	Durham	0.25	0 -5
21002	A Tod	Durham	0.25	0 -9
21101	M Hottiger	Everton	2.50	0 -7
21102	A Hinchcliffe	Everton	2.00	0 +14
20603	T Phelan	Everton	2.00	0 -3
21103	R Brown	Everton	1.00	0 +10
21201	G Locke	Hearts	2.00	0 +25
21202	N Pointon	Hearts	1.00	0 +24
21301	W Miller	Hibernian	1.00	0 +7
21302	A Dow	Hibernian	1.00	0 +12
21402	G MacPherson	Kilmarnock	0.50	0 +1
21501	G Kelly	Leeds United	3.00	0 +51
21502	A Dorog	Leeds United	2.50	0 +20
21504	H Hall	Leeds United	1.00	0 +40
21601	M Whitlow	Leicester City	0.50	0 +6
21602	S Grayson	Leicester City	0.50	0 +10
21604	F Rolfing	Leicester City	0.25	0 -1
21701	R Jones	Liverpool	3.00	0 -1
21702	S Harkness	Liverpool	1.50	0 +3
21703	I Bjornby	Liverpool	0.50	0 +45
21801	D Irvine	Manchester United	4.00	0 +39
21802	G Neville	Manchester United	3.00	0 +34
21803	P Neville	Manchester United	3.00	0 +7
21901	N Cox	Middlesbrough	2.50	0 -11
21903	C Morris	Middlesbrough	1.50	0 -1
21904	C Fleming	Middlesbrough	0.75	0 +8
21905	C Macdonald	Middlesbrough	0.25	-1 +14
21906	V Kinder	Middlesbrough	1.50	0 -1
22002	S McMillan	Motherwell	0.50	0 +9
22101	W Barton	Newcastle United	3.00	0 +20
22102	S Watson	Newcastle United	3.00	0 +22
22103	R Elliott	Newcastle United	2.50	0 +38
22104	J Beresford	Newcastle United	2.50	0 +22
22201	S Pearce	Nottingham Forest	4.00	0 +10
22202	D Lytle	Nottingham Forest	2.00	0 +5
22203	A J Hasland	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0 +20
22204	N Akin	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0 +18
22301	R Bonar	Raith Rovers	0.75	0 -18
22302	D Kirkwood	Raith Rovers	0.50	0 -14
22401	D Robertson	Rangers	2.50	0 +48
22402	J Brown	Rangers	2.00	0 0
22501	I Nolan	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0 +22
22502	P Atherton	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0 +7
22503	S Nicol	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0 +6
22504	D Stefanovic	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0 +6
22505	L Briscoe	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0 +3
22601	J Dodd	Southampton	1.50	0 -4
22602	F Benali	Southampton	0.75	0 +4
22603	S Charlton	Southampton	0.50	0 +5
22701	K Kutiadi	Sunderland	0.50	0 +4
22702	M Scott	Sunderland	0.25	0 +7
22704	J Eriksson	Sunderland	1.50	0 -1
22801	D Austin	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0 +7
22802	C Wilson	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0 +12
22803	J Edinburgh	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	0 +13
22804	D Kerslake	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0 0
22805	S Carr	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	0 -4
22901	J Dicks	West Ham United	4.00	0 +23
22902	T Breacker	West Ham United	1.00	0 +3
22903	K Rowland	West Ham United	1.00	0 -4
22904	M Bowen	West Ham United	1.00	0 +2
23001	B Thatcher	Wimbledon	0.75	0 +17
23002	A Kinnear	Wimbledon	0.75	0 +30
23003	K Cunningham	Wimbledon	0.75	0 0
23004	D Jupp	Wimbledon	0.75	0 0
23005	C Perry	Wimbledon	0.25	0 +43

Code	Name	Team	Pos	Points	Value
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30101	B Irvine	Aberdeen	2.00	0 -6
30102	C Woodthorpe	Aberdeen	1.50	0 +2
30103	A Kombouars	Aberdeen	2.50	0 +4
30201	A Adams	Arsenal	4.00	0 +39
30202	S Gould	Arsenal	4.00	0 +41
30203	M Keown	Arsenal	3.00	0 +50
30205	S Marshall	Arsenal	1.00	0 +14
30301	G Southgate	Aston Villa	3.50	0 +44
30302	U Ehlogu	Aston Villa	3.00	0 +75
30305	R Scimeca	Aston Villa	1.00	0 +32



Eddie Newton celebrates scoring for Chelsea, against Middlesbrough, in the FA Cup final but who will be winning in ITF?

Code	Name	Team	Pos	Points	Value
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30401	C Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	0 +32
30402	I Pearce	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0 +3
30403	C Coleman	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0 -3
30404	N Marker	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	0 +8
30501	T Boyd	Celtic	3.00	0 +40
30502	M MacKay	Celtic	1.50	0 +44
30503	A Stubbs	Celtic	3.50	0 +22
30504	B O'Neill	Celtic	3.00	0 0
30505	E Annoni	Celtic	3.00	0 +4
30601	M Duff	Chelsea	2.50	0 +1
30602	F Leboeuf	Chelsea	2.50	+3 +36
30603	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	+4 +4
30604	D Lee	Chelsea	2.00	0 +3
30605	A Myers	Chelsea	1.50	0 +5
30606	E Johnsen	Chelsea	1.50	0 +18
30701	L Delah	Coventry City	2.00	0 +8
30702	R Shaw	Coventry City	1.50	0 +2
30704	G Evers	Coventry City	1.50	0 -2
30705	A Evtushok	Coventry City	1.50	0 +1
30801	I Stimson	Derby County	2.50	0 -10
30802	D Wassall	Derby County	1.00	0 0
30803	P McGrath	Derby County	2.50	0 -4
30804	J Laurson	Derby County	1.00	0 +10
30805	M Carbone	Derby County	0.50	0 -5
30901	S Presley	Dundee United	1.00	0 +52
31001	M Miller	Durham	0.75	0 -8
31002	I Den Bieman	Durham	0.75	0 -19
31101	D Unsworth	Everton	2.50	0 +12
31102	D Watson	Everton	2.50	0 +11
31103	C Short	Everton	2.00	0 +6
31201	D McPherson	Hearts	1.00	0 +30
31202	P Ritchie	Hearts	1.00	0 +34
31301	J McLaughlin	Hibernian	1.50	0 +4
30902	B Welsh	Hibernian	0.75	0 +8
31302	G Hunter	Hibernian	0.50	0 -3
31303	S Dennis	Hibernian	1.00	0 -19
31401	M Reilly	Kilmarnock	1.00	0 +17
31402	R Montgomery	Kilmarnock	0.75	0 +12
31501	D Wetherall	Leeds United	2.50	0 +42
31502	R Johnson	Leeds United	1.00	0 +2
31503	L Radebe	Leeds United	1.00	0 +29
31504	J Pemberton	Leeds United	0.50	0 0
31505	R Molenaar	Leeds United	2.00	0 +23
31601	S Walsh	Leicester City	1.00	0 +17
31602	J Watts	Leicester City	1.00	0 +8
31603	P Karmark	Leicester City	0.50	0 +7
31604	S Prior	Leicester City	1.00	0 0
31605	M Elliott	Leicester City	1.50	0 +10
31701	P Babo	Liverpool	3.50	0 +24
31702	M Wright	Liverpool	3.50	0 +29
31703	N Long	Liverpool	3.00	0 +12
31704	N Ruddock	Liverpool	3.00	0 +12
31705	D Matteo	Liverpool	1.00	0 +26
31706	B T Kvarme	Liverpool	2.00	0 +3
31801	G Pallister	Manchester United	3.50	0 +11
31802	D May	Manchester United	3.00	0 +39
31803	R Johnson	Manchester United	2.50	0 +25
31901	N Pearson	Middlesbrough	1.50	-1 +8
31902	S Vickers	Middlesbrough	1.50	0 -8
31903	D Whittle	Middlesbrough	1.50	0 -10
31904	P Whelan	Middlesbrough	0.75	0 -4
31905	G Festa	Middlesbrough	1.50	-2 +6
32001	B Martin	Motherwell	1.50	0 -1
32002	M van der Gaag	Motherwell	0.75	0 +24
32101	P Albert	Newcastle United	4.50	0 +26
32102	S Howe	Newcastle United	3.00	0 +7
32103	D Peacock	Newcastle United	3.00	0 +32
32104	C Cochrane	Nottingham Forest	3.00	0 +1
32202	S Chettle	Nottingham Forest	2.50	0 +9
32203	S Blatherwick	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0 -5
32301	D Craig	Raith Rovers	0.50	0 -13
32304	G Mitchell	Raith Rovers	0.50	0 -11
32401	R Gough	Rangers	3.50	0 +56
32402	A McLaren	Rangers	3.00	0 +24
32403	J Bjorklund	Rangers	3.50	0 +20
32404	G Petric	Rangers	2.50	0 +18
32501	J Newsome	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	0 +15
32502	D Walker	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0 +25
32503	B Lingham	Sheffield Wednesday	0.25	0 0
32601	K Nonkou	Southampton	1.50	0 -18
32602	A Neilson	Southampton	1.00	0 +7
32603	R Dryden	Southampton	0.50	0 +2
32604	C Lundekvam	Southampton	0.50	0 +3
32605	U van Gobel	Southampton	1.50	0 -9
32701	A Melville	Sunderland	1.00	0 +12
32702	K Ball	Sunderland	1.00	0 +14
32703	R Ord	Sunderland	0.50	0 +18
32801	S Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0 +22
31702	J Scales	Tottenham Hotspur	3.50	0 +7
32802	C Calderwood	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0 +17
32803	G Mabbitt	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0 0
32804	S Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0 -6
32807	R Vega	Tottenham Hotspur	3.00	0 +4
32901	S Bille	West Ham United	2.50	0 +17
32902	M Rieper	West Ham United	2.50	0 +10
32903	S Potts	West Ham United	2.00	0 +8
32904	R Hall	West Ham United	1.50	0 +7
32905	R Ferdinand	West Ham United	0.50	0 +10
33001	A Beever	Wimbledon	0.25	0 -2
33003	A Penrice	Wimbledon	0.75	0 0
33004	D White	Wimbledon	0.50	0 +16
33005	B McAllister	Wimbledon	0.50	0 +16
33006	S Fitzgerald	Wimbledon	0.25	0 0



# Kilmarnock last stop on the trail of £50,000 ITF game



AS THE domestic seasons stagger to their conclusion, two more prizes with be decided, barring a replay, on Saturday: the Tennents Scottish Cup final and the Interactive Team Football game.

The cup final, at Ibrox, is between Kilmarnock and Falkirk, but, as Falkirk are in the first division of the Scottish League, their players are ineligible for ITF, so our managers who are looking to make late transfers will only be interested in those from Kilmarnock.

The race for the £50,000 prize for the overall winner of ITF could not be closer, with Turners Earners 5 and Sophie And Sam leading the table with 822 points each, followed by Edmo Utd with 805.

While those managers will be looking north of the border for help, Mr K. Charlton, of Faversham, Kent, can thank four English-based Europeans for winning him the weekly prize. The FA Cup Final may, to the neutrals, have resembled a game of spot the Englishman, but the performances of Frodo Grodas, of Norway, and Dan Petrescu, of Romania, for Chelsea, and Juninho, of Brazil, and Mikkel Beck, of Denmark, for Middlesbrough, earned Revelation 19 £250.

Mr Charlton's team is:

**Goalkeeper**  
F Grodas (Chelsea)

**Full backs**  
D Petrescu (Chelsea)  
D Robertson (Rangers)

**Central defenders**  
R Montgomerie (Kilmarnock)  
M Reilly (Kilmarnock)

**Midfield players**  
P di Canio (Celtic)  
N Ardley (Wimbledon)  
M Pembroke (Sheff Wed)  
Juninho (Middlesbrough)



Grodas holds aloft the FA Cup on Saturday. His clean sheet for Chelsea was also a winner for Revelation 19



**Strikers**  
D Jackson (Hibernian)  
M Beck (Middlesbrough)

**Manager**  
A Wenger (Arsenal)

You can still use the ITF transfer system, even though the regular transfer system has ended for the season, which allows you to change up

to two players each week and to adjust your team if one of your players is actually transferred out of the FA Carling Premiership or Bell's Scottish League premier division.

You can make transfers only by telephone. Using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a \* and a hash key are Touch-tone), call the 0891 866 968 line during the times given. From outside the United Kingdom, you must call 0044 990 200 668.

When making a transfer, you must ensure that the team does not contain more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club.

If you are lagging behind the leading team selectors, the transfer system will be an appealing option to you in the chase for the prizes — the overall £50,000, monthly £1,000 or weekly £250.

All Interactive Team Football transfer queries should be directed to 0171-757 7016. All other inquiries can be made on 01582 483 122.

There are no transfers or loaned players in Interactive Team Football this week

## HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS IN ITF

All 1996-7 matches in the FA Carling Premiership, FA Cup, Bell's Scottish League premier division and Tennents Scottish Cup from August 17 count for points. Penalty shootouts do not count but results decided in this way will count for managers.

POINTS SCORED			
Goalkeeper		Striker	
Keeps clean sheet*	4pts	Scores goal	2pts
Scores goal	3pts	All players	
Saves penalty	1pt	Appearance	1pt
Full back/Central defender		Scores hat-trick	6pts
Keeps clean sheet*	3pts	Manager	
Scores goal	3pts	Team wins	3pts
Midfield player		Team draws	1pt
Keeps clean sheet*	1pt		
Scores goal	2pts		

POINTS DEDUCTED			
Goalkeeper		Booked	1pt
Concedes goal	2pts	Concedes penalty	1pt
Full back/Central defender		Misses penalty	1pt
Concedes goal	1pt	Scores own goal	1pt
All players		Manager	
Sent off	3pts	Team loses	1pt
† must have played for 75 minutes in the match			
† must have played for 45 minutes in the match			



## Last chance for transfers



There is still time to make a last-minute transfer to your Interactive football team. The Tennents Scottish cup final marks the end of the ITF competition. The points scored in this match will decide your final position in the 1996-97 ITF league. The Times Interactive will be inviting some of the top entrants to Football Football, the London soccer-themed restaurant, to celebrate the end of the season. Among them will be the overall winner who will receive £50,000, the second prizewinner who gets £10,000 and third-place winner who receives £2,500.



See Sky Tel, page 118

## HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER IN ITF

Call 0891 866 968

If telephoning from outside the United Kingdom call 44 990 200 668.

You may make transfers only by telephone using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a \* and a hash key are Touch-tone). You will need your ten-digit selector PIN, which you will have to tap in, not speak. Follow the simple instructions and tap in the five-digit codes of the players you are transferring.

You may only make transfers in one team per telephone call. If you have entered two teams and want to make transfers in both, you must make two separate calls.

You may transfer two (but no more than two) individuals (two players or one player and a manager) during a transfer week. A player being transferred out must be replaced by one from the same category and you must keep to the team format of a goalkeeper, two full backs, two central defenders, four midfield players, two strikers and a manager. You must not exceed the £35 million budget and have no more than two individuals from the same club. Incorrect transfers will be rejected and your team will remain in its previous form.

The transfer week runs from 00.01 on Tuesday to midnight the following Monday. Transfers made before noon each day will become effective immediately. Transfers made after noon will become effective for matches played after noon on the following day.

Your new player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The current score of the player transferred out remains part of your team score but he then ceases to score for you.

If a player or manager moves teams during the season, it may affect the composition of your team. You must adjust your team by using the transfer system to avoid missing out on points.

Calls will be charged at 50p per minute. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.

Player out	Player code
Club	<input type="text"/>
Player in	<input type="text"/>
Club	<input type="text"/>

## THE LEADING 250 ENTRIES IN THE TIMES INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL GAME

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts
1=	Turners Earners 5	(P Turner)	822
2=	Sophie And Sam	(G Foster)	822
3	Edmo Utd	(D Edmondson)	805
4	James Boys Three	(M Jones)	800
5	Turner Earners 3	(P Turner)	796
6	John Hunt Taunton H	(J Hunt)	792
7	Nobby 32	(J Brown)	791
8	Brain's Team	(B Howes)	788
9	Daggers	(V Cox)	785
10	Nobby	(J Brown)	781
11	John Hunt Taunton D	(J Hunt)	778
12=	Teddy Three	(B Bear)	771
13=	Nobby 4	(J Brown)	771
14	John Hunt Taunton G	(J Hunt)	769
15	Nobby 11	(J Brown)	768
16	Dour Rangers 3	(I Clayton)	768
17	Pin Ups Two	(P Tustler)	765
18=	12 Angry Men	(Daryl Cook)	764
19=	A	(Martin Corless)	764
20	Boys Boys 2	(R Calder)	764
21	Icarus	(Mrs E Wells)	760
22	Nonchalant A F C 3	(PJ Ward)	759
23=	Nobby 22	(J Brown)	751
24=	Ab 4	(A Boyland)	750
25=	Blythe Spartans	(T Blythe)	750
26=	Nobby 29	(J Brown)	748
27=	Beaston Celtic	(Garry McGivern)	748
28=	Ab	(M Baser)	748
29=	Walsingham FC	(Margaret Kirkwood)	747
30=	Jabberwocky	(PA Amos)	739
31=	1970 Jr FC	(J Ross)	739
32	Partick Blisbo 3	(J Hamilton)	738
33=	Bcf 1998	(Jan Bithell)	734
34=	Turners Earners 1	(P Turner)	732
35	Midfies	(R Lockyer)	730
36=	Uni Boys Utd 1	(B Gardiner)	729
37	Storm	(P Mills)	728
38	Nobby 21	(J Brown)	728
39	Fair Academicals	(Alastair Kirkwood)	727
40	Gestalt	(Richard Rowe)	726
41=	John Hunt Taunton F	(J Hunt)	725
42=	Nobby 33	(J Brown)	724
43=	James Boys 8	(M Jones)	724
44=	Mean Machine	(P Ford)	724
45=	Turners Earners 4	(P Turner)	722
46=	Boys Boys 4	(R Calder)	721
47=	Jls Sports	(A Bates)	720
48	Inter The Stand	(M Ward)	719
49	Orvieto Classico	(DR J Bradshaw)	718
50=	D J S 2	(D Santon)	718
51=	Brainbrows United	(G Wells)	718
52=	Thorn Footie F C	(M Horen)	718
53=	Midfield Magic	(Jon Pregon)	718
54	Kryston 2	(S Roberts)	717
55=	Your Not Very Well	(R Laskowski)	716
56=	Blackburners	(P Walters)	716
57=	Club 18-30 Toss	(Andy Robson)	715
58=	Man City Free Zone	(D Ingham)	714
59	Noahs Ark	(G P Dole)	713
60=	Concrete Banana	(M Baser)	713
61=	Tur	(P Turner)	713
62=	Hunters Mob	(C Hunter)	713
63=	Where's Ray Gane?	(Patrick Fromm)	712
64=	John Hunt Taunton C	(J Hunt)	712
65	Turners Earners 6	(P Turner)	710
66=	Tulips Toys	(D Tulip)	708
67=	Skyforest	(A Burton)	708
68=	Ab	(M Baser)	707
69=	John Hunt Taunton E	(J Hunt)	707

**FIND OUT HOW YOUR TEAM IS DOING**

Call the ITF hotline on 0891 864 643  
Outside UK: 44 990 100 343

Check your points total and your ranking. You need a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a \* and a hash key are Touch-tone) and your ten-digit selector's PIN. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts
70=	Sam Shanks	(S Shankar)	706
71=	Boys Boys 3	(R Calder)	706
72=	Set Against Cys	(S Shipley)	705
73=	Always Portugal 1	(V Guimaraes)	705
74=	Inter The Unknown	(Peter Barnett)	705
75=	Bed Time Boys	(R Crook)	704
76=	Doppelganger Utd	(John Whaling)	704
77=	Murrays Motors	(D Anderson)	703
78=	Elkstone United	(Paul Leader)	703
79=	Nobby 23	(J Brown)	702
80=	Bom Losers	(P Farlane)	702
81=	Burnet Bhoys	(Alan Sharpe)	702
82=	Top Banana	(Martin Bottomley)	700
83=	Boys Boys 1	(R Calder)	700
84=	Schools For Goals	(K Booth)	698
85=	Irwin's Best	(J Sampson)	698
86=	Minim Fantasy Leaguers	(Michael Madden)	698
87=	Boys Boys	(C Crook)	697
88=	P J B Rovers	(PJ Butler)	696
89=	Jan 2	(Mrs J Clayton)	696
90=	End 2	(J Hagger)	695
91=	Glen Outfies	(S Wilson)	695
92=	James Boys Sky	(Mike Jones)	695
93=	Boys Boys 5	(R Calder)	694
94=	Caught Lucky	(R Calder)	693
95=	A2	(C Wright)	693
96=	Subwith Utd 5	(K Farhall)	692
97=	Bell Watchers	(M Lacombe)	692
98=	PJ Thistle	(W Haslop)	692
99=	The Dummies 1	(Richard Newbould)	692
100=	L F C Champs 96 97	(D Shields)	692
101=	Enid Four	(B Fazakerley)	691
102=	Nobby 34	(J Feather)	691
103=	Joking	(J Brown)	691
104=	Garforth Seahawks	(P Fallon)	690
105=	Basford Boys	(I Dougherty)	690
106=	Bell Watchers	(N Woodley)	689
107=	Nell Madrid	(J Murrey)	689
108=	No Midfield	(J Murrey)	689
109=	No Midfield	(JB Portwood)	688
110=	Ebbw Vale 1 X 1	(S Baldrick)	688
111=	Inter The Pub	(M Ward)	687

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts
112=	Alice	(I Pigeon)	687
113=	Fendon United	(E Cowen)	687
114=	Northern Lights	(C Wright)	687
115=	The Winners Vw	(Nikram Wadhwa)	687
116=	Team C	(A Love)	686
117=	Murrays Magicians	(M Macmillan)	686
118=	What Ford Splash	(N P Lewis)	686
119=	Ravn's Dream Team	(Morten Ravn)	685
120=	Nobby 7	(K Hughes)	685
121=	Wireless Wonders	(J Brown)	685
122=	Irwin's Undecided	(P Paynter)	684
123=	Nobby 20	(Mary Ann Kennedy)	684
124	Airstir	(J Brown)	684
125=	Inter The Wallet	(Hyle)	683
126=	Come On You Rocks	(M Ward)	682
127=	Lynne's Lions	(C Hadfield)	682
128=	Shot On Sight 2	(Lynne Hloms)	682
129=	Netless Heroes	(P Goldstraw)	681
130=	Back In Bristol	(I Fox)	681
131=	Demolition Men	(D Stone)	680
132=	Three Tabletoppers	(J Murray)	680
133=	John Hunt Taunton A	(Mary Ann Kennedy)	680
134=	Simba's Dream	(J Hunt)	680
135=	Star Chamber	(Ms CA Kitchen)	679
136=	Diplomatic Risk	(M Macmillan)	679
137=	Byzantine Bricks	(G Prichard)	679
138=	The Loggers	(S Houghton)	679
139=	The Instructions	(C Wright)	678
140=	Grafton Willows	(K Curran)	678
141=	Guy's Next Bests	(Guy Bonello)	678
142=	Minik Imports	(Scott Fraser)	678
143=	Triple Top Tan	(P Bailey)	677
144=	Mars Fc	(M Baber)	677
145=	Vat 3	(K Howson)	677
146=	Burg Hol	(Graham Watson)	676
147=	Daniels Seishans	(V Cox)	675
148=	Def Con 3	(M Peck)	675
149=	J D 3	(J Donaldson)	674
150=	St Bartholomews	(J M Bartholomew)	674
151=	N S T Monkstone	(J Slaszewicz)	674
152=	Infinity George	(M Robson)	674
153=	Nobby 12	(J Brown)	674
154=	Grimmers Army	(S Gray)	673
155=	Schoko Zoo	(Paul Roach)	673
156=	I Hate Alan Hansen	(V Cox)	673
157=	S Galt Taunton A	(S Galt)	673
158=	Animals	(L Clark)	673
159=	Patel One	(P Patel)	672
160=	Cookies Gunners	(S Cook)	672
161=	Jack's Nightmares	(N J Lane)	672
162=	Wassack	(M Hugill)	672
163=	Tungston Town	(JW George)	672
164=	Billy No Mates X 1	(M Bremner)	672
165=	Langdon Longballs	(C Wright)	672
166=	S S August Monthly 1	(J Swales)	671
167=	Havok	(Peter Williamson)	671
168=	Hannah's Heroes	(Colin Bennett)	671
169=	Lloyd's Bargo	(David Goodwin)	671
170=	Inter-mountford	(Andrew Mountford)	671
171=	Nobby 34	(J Brown)	671
172=	Flying Pigs	(M Macmillan)	670
173=	Dimlyno Moscow	(C Wilson)	670
174=	Drabs	(D Edroostestainer)	670
175=	Layton's Lions 7	(R Layton)	669
176=	Caroline B	(A Luckhurst)	669
177=	Bob Hope And No Hope	(T Blythe)	669
178=	Bumtye Buddies	(P Johnson)	669
179=	Nobby 5	(J Brown)	669

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts
181=	Porcelain Dogs	(A Ibbson)	668
181=	Raj Is Back To Kill 6	(R Gohil)	668
181=	GR 2	(G Richards)	668
181=	Nobby 25	(J Brown)	668
185=	Maplappers	(P Reid)	667
185=	C U O K	(G Weiss)	667
185=	Best Defence	(Jon Pregon)	667
185=	Nobby 14	(J Brown)	667
189=	Sucharita	(Richard Keenan)	666
190=	Lager Space Fc	(David Mayall)	666
190=	Dutch Courage	(Rud Van Ruitenbeek)	666
190=	Lesleys Legmen	(L Michaels)	666
192=	Signus Alpha	(M Griffiths)	666
193=	Its About Revenge C	(R Gohil)	666
193=	Caroline C	(S A Luckhurst)	666
193=	Rufus' Rednecks	(N Allan)	666
193=	Holstenites	(D Blair)	666
193=	Armchair United	(S Milton)	666
193=	Nornates	(C Wilson)	666
193=	Fergie's Cryers	(B Fazakerley)	666
201=	Staves Aces	(S Brock)	666
201=	Buggie Navies	(Dave Banks)	666
203=	We Have No Bananas	(C Hall)	666
203=	Gangsters	(A Lone)	666
203=	Dickies Tigers	(T Rawlings)	666
203=	Rubella	(T Wylie)	666
203=	No Help From Dad FC	(A Du Gay)	666
203=	Buggie's Boys	(Miss L Emery)	666
203=	More Cash Chief	(Daniel Higgins)	666
203=	Skyline Sizzlers	(T Gordon)	666
211=	Celtic Fowlers	(G Thomas)	666
211=	Zendo FC	(S Kirkwood)	666
211=	Slappy Chappies	(P Johnson)	666
211=	Dodds Aces	(C Dodd)	666
215=	Don 3	(D Shuter)	666
215=	Entertainment U K	(P Wheatley)	666
215=	Das Boot	(D A Sutton)	666
215=	Inter The Bin	(M Ward)	666
215=	Langaller Lads	(N Finch)	666
220=	Over Paid Losers	(J Line)	666
220=	Robbies Rogues	(R Pressling)	666
220=	Kicking Arsenal	(R Broke)	666
220=	Sooty's Puppets I I	(EG Ryan)	666
220=	Red Star Belgravia	(Richard Keenan)	666
220=	Millys Mops	(P Johnson)	666
226=	Totted Five	(E Kisby)	666
226=	Boyz 2	(D Patel)	666
226=	Oscar's All Stars	(Miss A White)	666
228=	4 4 2	(K Brown)	666
228=	Solid Saints	(P Rickard)	666
228=	Goaliggers	(D Curzon)	666
228=	Twelve Just Men	(W Evans)	666
228=	Kingklazda I I	(M Dawe)	666
233=	Caroline D	(A Luckhurst)	666
233=	Sad & Grim Team	(J Swain)	666
233=	Dwyer's Tlsters	(J Dwyer)	666
233=	Supersubs	(I Taylor)	666
238=	Sun Can Be Talking	(R Laskowski)	666
238=	Dave's Fire I I I	(D Quibell)	666
238=	Papadopoulos Ltd	(A Papadopoulos)	666
238=	Zacks United	(E Zacks)	666
238=	Tobys Terrorz 7	(P Wheatley)	666
238=	Ziggurat	(T Groomer)	666
244=	Jones Boys One	(ML Jones)	666
244=	Wolf Tones Ltd	(T Prior)	666
244=	Nadar	(Meváizski)	666
244=	Foxy	(M Fox)	666
244=	Tour De Force	(C Cuffaz)	666
248=	Alancia F C	(A Stillano)	666
248=	Inter Outers	(R Johnson)	666







Australian batsman discarded for recklessness opens up to Alan Lee

## Slater retains faith in cavalier style

Just occasionally, a cricketer comes along who transcends partisanship and generates broad, affectionate appreciation. Such a player is Michael Slater, now embarking on his second England tour with a career to rebuild but a reputation as an entertainer that, in England at least, remains untouched by his soul-searching of the past six months.

Slater is the most dazzlingly instinctive opening batsman in the world today and, of consequence, one of the most vulnerable. Spectators love him for his fallibility as much as his fearlessness; he is that rare being, a cricketer who compels attention through the dread of missing something memorable, magical or howlingly mad.

He was an almost instant revelation in Test cricket, but in India last autumn instinct was traded for impetuosity once too often for the blood pressure of the Australia selectors. After an especially precipitate dismissal, chasing wildly outside off stump to the second ball of a Test in Delhi, Slater was dropped. He has not played an international game since.

This is likely to change at Headingley on Thursday, when Slater will probably bat in the middle order in the opening Texaco Trophy one-day match. He sees this as a platform, a means to the end that has recently consumed him, the re-establishment of his position at No 1 in the Test match side.

For a long time, it seemed Slater was destined to miss this tour, thus missing the return to where it all began, in particular a nostalgic return to Lord's, where he made a century in only his second Test match and celebrated it, engagingly, by kissing the Australian badge on his green helmet.



Slater at Arundel, where he reintroduced himself to English spectators with an unbeaten half-century

Slater, now 27, says he was "thrilled but not surprised" to be chosen. "It had all turned full circle in the three weeks before selection," he explains. "The form of certain players in South Africa had gone my way, as did the fact that this tour followed so quickly. From the moment I was left out, my goal and focus was to get back in time for England, so I just crossed my fingers and hoped."

The wounds of rejection have not entirely healed, but only now, with the safety of

distance and the security of a second chance, is Slater willing to talk openly about his feelings. At the time, he turned inwardly: he abandoned his customarily lucid and approachable personality in favour of silent mourning.

If this sounds excessive, consider the man and his achievements. In 34 Tests, he had made 2,655 runs at an average of 47.41, at least five runs per innings higher than any of the present England team. Moreover, he had made them with the irrepressible

spirit that he was now being asked to curb.

He was confused. Also, because the modern international cricketer earns good money and he had just pledged himself and his wife, Stephanie, to a spanking new home in Sydney's docks, he was entitled to be a little afraid.

"I was in shock, really," he recalls. "It hit me very hard because I didn't see it coming. I had always regarded myself as a consistent Test player and, although no one can ever

take such a thing for granted, I had not expected it to be taken away. I did get very low,

depressed if you like. I'm only human and I found it hard to handle. At times, especially in the first few weeks afterwards, it seemed that nothing would go right. A long season stretched ahead and I didn't know what else."

The inevitable self-analysis was complicated by the difficulty of reconciling a need to readjust with a desire to retain his identity. "I had to reassess my style, but I came to the

conclusion that turning my natural, aggressive game into that of a run accumulator just wouldn't work.

"I received an awful lot of advice and it came down to me to sift through it and decide what was best. If I was getting out playing loose shots, that was something that had to be addressed, but even now I have not made fundamental changes to my technique. I will still get out to poor shots in the future, it's part of the game. I just intend to do it less often."

Slater's banishment polarised Australians. There were those who thought he had it coming to him, like a naughty schoolboy. There were others, like the former captain, Ian Chappell, who took an entirely different view. "The desire to punish Slater showed a lack of understanding in the need to maintain the right balance in the Test side," Chappell said. "Having undermined Slater's confidence in his natural game, he is now in such a mess he will require careful rehabilitation. He may never be the same player again."

Slater is aware of the concern, but intent on ignoring it. "I believe this saga has made me a better person," he said. "The need to rethink my goals and my methods will have done me no harm in the long run."

He has been in England only a week, but already he feels at home and in good form. "The response of the people here has been touching, really warm. A lot of them have come up and said they love the way I play. They seem to worry I'm going to change everything, but I can assure them I'm not. I'm a passionate person and that is how I will always bat. It wouldn't be me otherwise."

## Hat-trick specialist awaits date with destiny

IF Dean Headley is ever going to shed his reputation as a fine county bowler and become the Test match cricketer he aspires to be, he must take the decisive step this summer. On Sunday, he was named in the England party for the Texaco Trophy one-day international, but those matches serve as a mere sorbet before the main dish. Has he the stomach for it?

The moment of truth cannot long be delayed. Headley, the Kent fast-medium swing bowler, has been spoken of for the past two years as the coming man among England's battalion of young quick bowlers and he will almost certainly get his chance when the first Test starts at Edgbaston on June 5. If he does play, it will be a homecoming of sorts, since he was born in Stourbridge, where he still keeps a house.

His father, Ron, the former

Worcestershire batsman, played Test cricket for West Indies. If it is difficult for a son to tread the same path as his father, then it must have been doubly difficult for Headley père, because he had to follow grandpère, George, who Cardus considered a finer batsman on "soft" pitches than Bradman.

If he does play Test cricket, the Headleys will become the first family to provide three generations of Test players (there are, remarkably, 32 sets of fathers and sons). To do so, as Headley grandpère says, would be "something they can't take away, and if they did, it would take some time."

You could say, therefore, that Dean, now 27, absorbed cricket as freely and naturally as oxygen, although he did not tear up many pear trees at Worcester and, after two years

Michael Henderson meets an England prospect with Test cricket in his blood

with Middlesex, he found himself — and has really found himself — at Kent. As a late replacement for Peter Martin on the A tour of Pakistan two winters ago, he made a sharp impression and, last year, he took three hat-tricks in championship cricket, which takes some doing. Nobody has ever taken more.

He won a place in England's one-day team against Pakistan at the end of last year, but when the winter parties were announced, he went off again with the A team to Australia, where they played winning cricket. Now, one feels, he is as ready for Test cricket as he will ever be.

"I think I've shown my potential," Headley said. "I have put on pace each year

and developed. People want to know whether you can bowl a good outswinger, an unswinger, a yorker. It would be nice to have four variations on a slower ball. If you have two, you may find three. Four, who



Headley: self-critical

knows? Nobody can do the same thing all the time unless they are absolutely world class."

He agrees he is self-critical, which is a mark of honesty, and is as likely to award himself decent marks as to do himself down. "There are times when you take enough for and you may have bowled well. At other times, you may have taken four or five wickets without having bowled well at all. Being critical goes both ways."

As one might expect from a supporter of West Bromwich Albion, he is an optimist. "I would like to think I will play Test cricket. It's hard to decipher what the challenge is before you get there, but I don't think playing county cricket gets you through playing Test cricket. You can average 40 or 50 in county cricket, but that alone doesn't mean you will make that step

up. You must have something extra. For a bowler, it may be getting 20 runs with the bat, or saving ten in the field."

He enjoyed Australia, he said, because the pitches, though not always fast, were true. "I prefer to play my first few games each year on short front pitches, where the ball goes through a bit, because it grooves you, you really have to bowl properly."

He also enjoyed the contest with Australian cricketers, though he does not see them as a tribe of supermen. To earn the right to play against them this summer, he will simply carry on as before. A bright chap, is Headley. He speaks well, has a high regard for his peers and, like many young English players, wants to show that domestic cricket is not so sclerotic as it is sometimes portrayed. He should not have to wait long for his chance. Wish him well.

## Promises that too often go up in smoke

Rob Hughes, chief sports writer, on the political football of tobacco sponsorship that has been kicked about for decades

Sport faces rapid change under New Labour. Yesterday, Frank Dobson, the Secretary of State for Health, warned that tobacco sponsorship, as well as advertising, will be outlawed under his administration. Thus 60 sports that have inhaled tobacco money to the tune of £8 million a year over three decades will have to find new ways to finance themselves.

Today, Chris Smith, the Secretary of State for National Heritage, holds counsel with the Sports Council and is expected to reduce the £300 million that sport receives annually from the National Lottery by up to one third. The worst fears are that this drastic cut, in order to finance Labour promises on health and education, will jeopardise John Major's £100 million National Academy of Sport and possibly defer the rebuilding of Wembley Stadium into a crown jewel to be used in enticing the World Cup and the Olympic Games to London.

Let us be honest. If sport has grown so dependent on tobacco sponsorship — the antithesis of promoting health and fitness — that it cannot

live within its means, then it simply must be scaled back. If this puts Britain at a disadvantage to other countries that do not care where the funding comes from, then perhaps Britain should take the healthy lead. It would, after all, help to excuse Great Britain's failure to finish any higher than 36th at the last Olympics. ... a failure that, incidentally, Labour pledged to reverse in the chase for popular votes. Jack Cunningham, then the Shadow Heritage Secretary, boasted that Labour would put Britain back into the Olympic top ten. He did not say how, he did not cost his promise and now, in the agriculture ministry, he is able to bury the hollow words.

But, to be fair, which of us, sports lovers though we may be, can argue the priority for sport over health and education? If Labour wants to put back the grass roots, replace, where possible, the lost playing fields and encourage teachers to spend time coaching their pupils, then, arguably, that will have its place among the priorities of the nation's health.

In any event, the Tory ideal of establishing its academy of sport never seemed more than an expensive experiment. Do we want sport weaned by a Government, or an administration depending on the nationalism that has corrupted the sporting ethos as much as drugs. If the academy had to produce results against, say, China, how far would the Government go in tolerating the distortion of mind and body, the obsession that is now almost a prerequisite of winning international titles?

Messrs Dobson and Smith must forgive us our suspicions. Frank Dobson has been consistent in his anti-smoking rhetoric — indeed, his words yesterday to the nurses of Britain were the same as in one of his speeches as Shadow Health Secretary, way back in 1986. At that time, the Conservative Government also spouted the intention to separate sport from tobacco. It delivered to such an extent that the Formula One circus, half the cars carrying tobacco advertisements, is about to be floated on the Stock Exchange; how sad it will be for Bernie Ecclestone if Labour, tampering with the freedom to promote smoking, should cut the valuation from £2 billion to a mere £1 billion!

Politicians, promises, money and tobacco. It begins to sound as hollow as a smoke ring, because in 1965 the Government banned advertising of tobacco on television. Shortly after that, Lord Howell, who, as Denis Howell, was to become the Labour Minister for Sport, formed a company with the agent, Bagenall Harvey, setting up tobacco sponsorships: Lord Howell called tobacco money the "lifeblood" of sport.

From then until today, sport built a dependency on the tobacco handout. It is ironic that the Sports Council journeys to the National Heritage Ministry today in fear of losing even more income, when, in 1978, that council rejected a resolution urging it to "neither negotiate nor associate with tobacco sponsorship". John Disley, then its vice-chairman, lamented "that some of our sports bodies should associate with tobacco, I find like putting King Herod in charge of child welfare". Almost 20 years on, the debate goes around and around. It is a treadmill, this conflict of sport tainted by nicotine, and Labour has yet to deliver on its promise and its threat.

Sponsorship ban, page 1

**COMPANY GOLF DAYS RESULTS**

The four top scorers in the individual Stableford competition played on the company golf course and won a prize of £100 each.

Date	Company Name	Score
9 MAY	SHARDIAN INSURANCE	138
9 MAY	METABOLISM LIMITED	137
9 MAY	SINCLAIR ROCKE & TEMPERLEY	131
9 MAY	SHULE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	128
9 MAY	ME SELECTION	118
12 MAY	SCOTTISH BUILDING SOCIETY	109
12 MAY	LAGREW-MERCEDES BENZ	108
13 MAY	SUN STEPHENSON LIMITED	104
13 MAY	LANTERN ENGINEERING LIMITED	123
14 MAY	CELEBRAL MEDICAL (EAST AFRICA)	148
14 MAY	WEATHERALL GREEN & SMITH	126

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HOCKEY  
Instonians on target in shoot-out

INSTONIAN, from Belfast, won the B division of the European club championship in Cagliari, Italy, yesterday, twice coming from behind against Amisora, the home side, in the final to force a penalty shoot-out, which they won 4-3.

In a display of immense fortitude, Mark Irwin and Mervyn Cooke levelled the scores from penalty corners during normal time after Alessio Raggio had twice converted penalty strokes. Cooke and his brothers, Paul and Neil, were also on target in the shoot-out, along with Paul Holloway, the captain.

Cannock of England, also had to come from behind in their bronze medal play-off against White Star, of Belgium. A goal down in the first minute, they responded with two goals from Bob Crutchley and one each from Chris Mayer and Paul Edwards to earn a 4-2 win.

Swansea registered their first victory of the tournament in their final game. They beat Grange, from Scotland, 1-0 with a 31st-minute strike by Carlo Lucignoli that ensured that Whitechurch, their successors as Welsh champions, will remain in the B division.

Hightown duplicated Cannock's success in the A division of the women's championships at The Hague, Holland, beating Glasgow Western 5-3 in an uncompromising contest to secure third place.

TENNIS  
Injury rules Becker out of French Open

BORIS BECKER's hopes of winning the French Open, the only grand slam crown still eluding him, were dashed yesterday when he had to pull out of the championships. Pete Sampras's French hopes also receded when an injury forced him to retire from a match against Mark Philippoussis, of Australia, in Düsseldorf yesterday.

The organisers of the French Open said that the 29-year-old German had withdrawn through injury from the day-court tournament, which starts next Monday. They did not give details, but Becker's season has been hampered by a lingering wrist injury that allowed him to play in only two tournaments in the past three months, in Monte Carlo and Hamburg.

Sampras's preparations were thrown into disarray by an injury to his left thigh. He says he does not know what his plans are, but hopes to be fit for Paris.

Tim Henman, the British No 1, last night vowed to return to the practice courts immediately as he made his second early exit from a tournament in successive weeks. The world No 17 slumped 6-4, 6-3 to Sjeng Schalken, of Holland, in the first round of the Raiffeisen Grand Prix in Austria, less than a week after being beaten in the Italian Open second round by an Italian qualifier, Davide Scola.

"I think in the next five or six days it will be pretty important to put in some practice time," Henman said.

**POOLS FORECAST**

Saturday May 24

Coupon No. 10, Return, 10c

**VICTORIA**

FIRST DIVISION

1 Bristol 0 v Moor 2  
2 Doncaster v Kingston 1  
3 Lough U v Mansfield 1  
4 Rotherham v Notts 1  
5 S. Darnley v W. G. 1  
6 Wombles v Western 1  
7 Westhale v S. G. 1

SECOND DIVISION

8 Alton v E. Rotherham 2  
9 B. Park v K. City 2  
10 E. Alton v Moor 1  
11 E. Rotherham v Wombles 2  
12 F. Rotherham v W. G. 2  
13 Rotherham v Glen 1

THIRD DIVISION

14 Bury v M. G. 1  
15 Bury v M. G. 1  
16 Bury v M. G. 1  
17 Bury v M. G. 1  
18 Bury v M. G. 1  
19 Bury v M. G. 1  
20 Bury v M. G. 1

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

FIRST DIVISION

21 Adelaide 1 v Salisbury 1  
22 Adelaide 1 v Salisbury 1  
23 Adelaide 1 v Salisbury 1  
24 Adelaide 1 v Salisbury 1  
25 Adelaide 1 v Salisbury 1  
26 Adelaide 1 v Salisbury 1  
27 Adelaide 1 v Salisbury 1

SECOND DIVISION

28 Adelaide 1 v Salisbury 1  
29 Adelaide 1 v Salisbury 1  
30 Adelaide 1 v Salisbury 1  
31 Adelaide 1 v Salisbury 1  
32 Adelaide 1 v Salisbury 1  
33 Adelaide 1 v Salisbury 1  
34 Adelaide 1 v Salisbury 1

THIRD DIVISION

35 Adelaide 1 v Salisbury 1  
36 Adelaide 1 v Salisbury 1  
37 Adelaide 1 v Salisbury 1  
38 Adelaide 1 v Salisbury 1  
39 Adelaide 1 v Salisbury 1  
40 Adelaide 1 v Salisbury 1  
41 Adelaide 1 v Salisbury 1

**HOMES:** Lough U, Doncaster, Rotherham, Wombles, Westhale, E. Rotherham, B. Park, Bury, F. Rotherham, Rotherham, Glen, Alton, S. Darnley, W. G., M. G., Salisbury, Adelaide.

**AWAYS:** Moor, Kingston, Mansfield, Notts, W. G., Western, S. G., E. Rotherham, K. City, Moor, Wombles, W. G., Rotherham, M. G., Salisbury, Adelaide.

Vince Wright forecast six out of eight away last Saturday

BADMINTON  
New series designed to raise profile

THE All-England championships are likely to become part of a new, higher-status series of tournaments in the world grand prix circuit named the "seven spectaculars" (Richard Eaton writes). The series is designed to increase worldwide television coverage and give badminton a new image and direction.

It should include four big prize-money tournaments in Asia, two in Europe and one in the United States. "The Atlanta Olympics did not move the sport forward a lot," David Shaw, the executive director of the International Badminton Federation (IBF), said on the opening day of the world championships in Glasgow yesterday. "But there is a huge potential market in the United States, with a lot of people playing socially."

The All-England, with its £125,000 prize money, arguably retains its status as the most prestigious open tournament, though whether or not it becomes part of the new series will depend upon the IBF and the Badminton Association of England reaching agreement with the Asian-based Star television company — something that has not happened in the recent past.

The series should begin in 1999. Leading into it next year will be two smaller, shop window events, possibly comprising the top four men's singles players and the top four men's doubles pairings, in Sydney and either Rome or London. If this attracts worldwide television coverage, it will mean that the World Cup this year will be the last.

**READER OFFER THE TIMES**

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See our *Forté Hotels* offer on page 20.

**THE TIMES**

**TOKEN 8**

CHANGING TIMES



# Tribute fit for a king pales beside greatest feats of Clay

A new film purports to show Muhammad Ali at the peak of his boxing career, but Brian Glanville recalls a golden age



The film documentary *When We Were Kings* tells, in its sometimes enthralling, sometimes anti-cinematic way, of Muhammad Ali's "Rumble in the Jungle" in Kinshasa in 1974, his extraordinary victory over George Foreman. Enthralling, for its filming of the event itself; engaging, in its portrait of Ali; anti-cinematic, in its plethora of talking heads.

The one that talks most is Norman Mailer's, by turns analyst and groupie. Mailer wrote a strange book about the contest, in which he described how, in an odd magical ritual, he walked around the balcony of his hotel room, propitiating fate on Ali's behalf.

At the end of the film, sheer embarrassment as Mailer tells a tale of how the ailing Ali complimented him on looking so young at 62, moving Mailer to go off like a dog — a fawning dog? — to urinate. At which Ali asks Mailer's far younger wife why she is still with that old man.

The film shows Ali as an astonishing boxer, a supremely handsome human being, an infinitely charming and loquacious egotist, but claims by one of the talking heads that Ali might be a "great political leader" are simply absurd.

As one who covered several of Ali's earlier fights, notably his sensational victory in Miami Beach over Sonny Liston in 1964, I found that the film omitted a complete dimension. Where it tries to show Ali as hero, it is surely more appropriate to see him as victim.

Another talking head tells

us that, for all his present slurring and shambling, the cruel product of his Parkinson's Syndrome, Ali is now a happy man. But who can be happy when, remembering him in all his physical glory, he sees the Ali of today, a brutal parody of what he was? And, seeing him, reflects how it must have happened, the fights too far, the punches to the head sustained despite his marvellous evasive skills.

For me, the watershed, the ugly moment of truth, came in 1966 in the dressing room of the White City gym before Ali's second meeting with Henry Cooper. He was on the massage table, for once calm and serene. Indeed, he had been sending up his own, flamboyant style of earlier days.

"Let's go back to the past: for just five minutes! If he give me five, he'll fall in five! Let me go, Angelo! I want him now!"

Recumbent, Ali said, "Presidents of the USA, they have their advisers. There's my brains, right here."

At which I expected him to indicate Angelo Dundee, who had trained and nurtured him so assiduously, but he did not. "Herbert Muhammad!" Ali cried, and pointed to a short, plump, black man who stood smiling in a corner. Herbert Muhammad, the son of Elijah Muhammad, founder and baleful leader of the Black Muslims.

It was the Black Muslims, by then, who controlled Ali, who had persuaded him to change his name from Cassius Clay, to leave the group of rich businessmen from Louisville, Kentucky, who had skilfully



Ali in *When We Were Kings*, an astonishing boxer and loquacious egotist

guided his career up to the time that he took the title from Liston.

By an irony, however, it was supposed, at the time of Ali's conversion, that it had been engineered not by Elijah Muhammad but by Malcolm X, the rival whom the Black Muslims would eventually shoot down.

Had the Louisville consortium continued to look after Clay, as he then was, would he have kept much more of his money? Would he have been forced to keep on fighting for so long?

He had 22 fights after taking the title back from Foreman. A talking head assures us that Ali just loved fighting. Did he? The day after beating Liston, Clay told us that he did not like hurting people, he did not like fighting — and neither had his hero, Sugar Ray Robinson.

As for his subsequent status, under the Black Muslims, an icon and a role model for young blacks, had he not been that already, by virtue of defeating Liston? A well-known liberal American journalist remarked to me the day after that Liston was "the kind of coloured man who keeps other coloured men in line. I'm glad to see him get it."

When Ali talks, on this documentary, one hears the voice of the Black Muslims. Whatever the atrocious suffering of the generations, Africa is surely

no panacea. Ali insists that America's blacks have been brainwashed with white attitudes and must therefore be "unbrainwashed".

If anybody was brainwashed, it appears to have been Ali himself. He showed courage, and was vindictively punished, for standing up against the Vietnam War, but at whose instigation was he standing? I much preferred the unreconstructed Clay, for all his exhibitionism.

In Miami Beach, Liston, before the fight, was the funnier man and, at the weigh-in, Clay appeared to go berserk, yelling and ranting at a passive Liston. "You a chump! You a chump!" Jim Manning, of the *Daily Mail*, wrote that Clay was too sick to fight, but it was just one more manoeuvre.

In the event, Clay boxed beautifully, slipped punch after punch, until Liston, his shoulder strained, quit on his stool. In Kinshasa, Ali, who had been promising to "dance", played "rope-a-dope" instead, until Foreman had punched himself out and could be punched in his turn.

But in the last analysis, the exploited Ali just took too many punches.



Ali employs his "rope-a-dope" tactic against Foreman

## Oliver must overcome inexperience

IF Spencer Oliver becomes the European super-bantam-weight champion tonight, he will be only beginning to fulfil the expectations of his manager, Jess Harding (Srikumar Sen writes). According to Harding, "This kid is so special, he will go all the way and become world champion."

Before that, however, the 22-year-old Londoner must overcome the formidable presence of the European titleholder, Martin Krastev, of Bulgaria, at Picketts Lock, Edmonton, north London.

While some experts feel that the bout could represent a step up in class too early in Oliver's career — he has had just ten contests, all of which he has won — Harding believes that his man's courage, technique and work-rate will see him through against the tough Krastev, 28, who is the first Bulgarian to hold a European championship.

## WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 52  
**BANAGHER**  
 (b) That beats Banagher — wonderfully inconsistent and absurd — exceedingly ridiculous. Banagher is a town in Ireland, on the Shannon, in Offaly. It formerly sent two Members to Parliament, and was a notorious pocket borough. When an MP spoke of a family borough, where every voter was a man employed by the owner, the stock reply was: "Well, that beats Banagher." Others say that Banagher was an Irish minstrel famous for telling tall stories.  
**THAMMUZ**  
 (c) A Sumerian, Babylonian and Assyrian god who died every year and rose again in the spring. He is identified with the Babylonian Marduk and the Greek Adonis. In *Ezekiel viii. 14*, reference is made to "women weeping for Tammuz". Milton, *Paradise Lost*: "Thammuz came next behind." Whose annual wound in Lebanon allured? The Syrian damsels to lament his fate! In amorous ditties all a summer's day. / While smooth Adonis from his native rock / Ran purple to the sea, supposed with blood / Of Thammuz yearly wounded.  
**FIARS**  
 (b) Striking the fiars is fixing the prices of the different varieties of grain in the various counties of Scotland. The decision was made by the sheriff on the advice of a jury. The system was originally used for determining crown rents, clerical stipends, etc., and applied to all contracts where the prices were not fixed by the parties concerned.  
**SCIRON**  
 (c) A robber of Greek legend. He infested the coastal road near Megara, robbed travellers and forced them to jump off the rocks into the sea. There they were devoured by a monster. Theseus killed him.  
**SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE**  
 1... Rh1-e2; 2. Nxb2-e3; 3. Kxh2 Rh5-e4; 4. Kg3 (4. Kg1 Rh1-mate) ... Nf5-e4; 5. Kf4 Rh4-checkmate.

## TELEVISION CHOICE

### A big bang at Dounreay

Home Ground: A Nuclear Dustbin  
 BBC2, 7.30pm

The season of documentaries from the BBC regions continues with a disquieting report about a nuclear explosion in Scotland. Although the blast happened 20 years ago, the gist of Louise Tait's very thorough report is that the full implications were largely hidden at the time and are only now being recognised. The blast took place in the main waste shaft at the Dounreay nuclear establishment in Caithness. For nearly two decades the shaft was used to dispose of highly radioactive material, though precautions were not as tight as they should have been. A government advisory body has been critical of the handling of the shaft and there are suggestions that the high incidence of leukaemia cases in the Caithness area may be linked to radioactive discharge.

Moving People  
 Channel 4, 8.00pm

John Peel introduces another three stories of moving home and, as always, the best is the most poignant. How could it be otherwise when Peggy Chew, a 70-year-old widow, is leaving the house where she has lived for 43 years. Her tale is not principally of the stresses of the actual move, though there is an alarm when a buyer suddenly pulls out and breaks the chain. Rather, it is of memories, above all of her late husband. They first met when she was 14 and they married after his return from a period of war captivity. The moving up is tough, but the house is too expensive to keep warm and she cannot turn back. Elsewhere, a wife nearly comes to blows with her spouse over his casual attitude to the move, and a couple with a six-month-old baby leave their tower block for a house with a garden.

QED: Superspectres  
 BBC1, times vary

Remember the clockwork radio, featured on a previous series of QED? It seemed just the thing for developing countries short on batteries and electricity. Dr Josh Silver's spectacles fall into the same category. The World Health Organisation estimates that one billion people cannot see properly because they cannot afford glasses.



Dr Silver tests his lens (BBC1, times vary)

Silver's solution, as ingenious as it is cheap, is a variable focus lens. Syringes inject silicon liquid between two pieces of plastic held in place by metal rings. Once the wearer can see clearly, the syringes are removed. Silver takes his invention to Ghana. Satisfied customers include a man who lost his factory job because of worsening eyesight and a fisherman who can barely see to mend his net without commercial backing, however, the project could be stillborn.

Victoria and Albert  
 ITV, times vary

Albert having died of typhoid at the end of the first programme, this concluding one is mostly about Victoria, but the dead consort continues to throw his shadow. The film charts Victoria's long and exclusive period of mourning, which made her so unpopular with her subjects that some of them campaigned to turn Great Britain into a republic. It took a serious illness to the future King Edward VII, and an attempt on her own life, to win public opinion back. Princes Michael of Kent, with the help of an unseen narrator, Simon Phillips, tells the tale in a solid and unconvincing style. This is the unvarnished Victoria of the school history books, delighting in Israeli, dismayed by Gladstone and finding an unlikely companion in the untutored Highlander, John Brown. Dramatised episodes fill out the narrative until moving film takes over towards the end of the reign. Peter Waymark

## RADIO CHOICE

The Network: Information as Power  
 Radio 4, 8.30pm

Too many programmes about information technology take a wide-eyed approach and therefore become advocates rather than critical analysts. This one is a welcome exception, taking in the risks as well as the benefits of empowering people through technology. Part of the focus tonight is on Internet shopping, much vaunted as the means to do everything from reducing the stress of ploughing around supermarkets to reducing traffic jams by enabling us to order from home but Alun Lewis asks the question that many in the computer business worry about: what guarantees is there that credit card details sent down a telephone line will not be exploited by the unscrupulous? Lewis reports on moves to improve security.

RADIO 1

7.00am Mark Radcliffe 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Wiley 2.00pm Nicky Campbell 4.00 Kevin Greening 6.15 Newsbeat 6.30 Evening Session 8.30 Digital Update with Rachel Heywood 8.40 John Peel 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs 1.00am Claire Sponsbury 4.00 Dave Navon

RADIO 2

All day: People to People: See Choice 6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.00 Wales Up to You 8.00 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Clare Gowing 2.00pm The 4.00 John Inverdale 7.00 Alan Freeman 8.00 Nigel Ogden 9.00 The Rock'n'Roll Years 9.30 Wally on War the Story of Bingo 10.30 Richard Allison 12.00am Steve Madden 3.00 Adrian Frighan

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme, includes Racing Preview 9.00 The Magazine 12.00 Midday with Mark 2.00pm Race on Five 4.00 John Inverdale 7.00 News Extra 7.35 Any Sporting Questions? Guests include England cricketer Dominic Cork and Wisden author Matthew Engel 9.00 Murray Walker's Grand Prix World 10.00 News Talk 11.00 News Extra 12.00 After Hours 2.00am Up All Night

TALK RADIO

5.00am Chris Ashley and Sandy Watt 7.00 Paul Ross 8.00 Scott Chisham 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Peter Dinkley 7.00 Max Dea's Sportszone 10.00 James Whale 1.00am Ian Collins

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Penny Gore. Includes Brahms (Sonata No 1 in D, Op 11); Vaughan Williams (Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis); Hampstead (Overture No 2 Die Heide Wälder); Schubert (Ein Song)  
 9.00am Morning Collection, with Catriona Young. Includes Smetana (Vespre, Ma Veste); Elgar (Chanson de nuit, Chanson de matin); Britten (Preludes and Dances: The Prince of the Pagodas)  
 10.00 Musical Encounters, with Nicola Heywood. Includes live from the Brunswick Room at the Guildhall, Bath, includes a performance by Steven Isserlis, cello, and Imogen Cooper, piano. Beethoven (Sonata in D, Op 10 No 3).  
 11.00 British International Music Festival. Includes Chopin (Polonaise-Fantasia in A flat, Op 61); Mazurka in C sharp minor, Op 30 No 4; Messiaen (Le Baiser de l'Enfant Jésus).  
 12.00 Composer of the Week: Handel. 1.00pm Elster Orchestra, Conductor Tomasz Bugaj, Anthony Goldstone, piano. Marschner (Overture, Der Vampyr); Weber (Konzertstück in F minor, Op 79); Holstmann (Symphony in E flat).  
 1.55 Voices. Merz, Sarah Walker talks to Ian Burnside, including recordings of Handel's Hercules and Stravinsky's The Rake's Progress (1)  
 2.40 The Academy of Ancient Music, under René Jacobs, at the 1995 Utrecht Early Music Festival. Includes two Italian carols and a dramatic piece by Bach.  
 4.00 Spirit of the Age (1)  
 5.00 Music Machine, with Verity Sharp

People to People  
 Radio 2, times vary

This is a two-day campaign, run in conjunction with the European Year Against Racism, fronted by the actor, Patrick Robinson, of *Casualty*. In addition to dealing with the problems confronted by members of ethnic minorities, including the physical attacks that feature all too often in news reports, there will be a strong emphasis on the contribution made by people of a black and Asian background to British society and culture. In that regard, Radio 2's music output over the two days will feature the wealth of musical diversity brought about by the influences of ethnic minorities. Jimmy Young's programme, at 11.30am, will look at manifestations of racism in Europe. There is also a free helpline: 0800 022 022. Peter Barnard

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. News on the hour. 6.00am Newshour 6.30 Europe Today 7.15 The World Today 7.30 Imperial Orphan 8.15 Off the Shelf 8.30 Touched with Fire 8.45 The Good Relationship Guide 9.00 News in German 9.15, 9.30, 9.45 Through Europe 9.30 Everywoman 10.00 Business Report 10.15 Sound Business 10.30 Literature 10.45 Sport 11.30 On Screen 12.30pm Imperial Orphan 1.00 News in German 1.05 Business Report 1.15 News Today 1.30 Health Matters 1.45 Sport 2.00 Newshour 3.05 Outlook 3.30 Multitrack 4.05 Sport 4.15 Through Europe 4.30 News in German 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 6.45 Britain Today 7.00 The World Today 7.00 News in German 7.15, 7.30, 7.45 Britain Today 7.30 Outlook 8.25 Passes for Thought 8.30 Megamix 9.00 Newshour 10.05 Business Report 10.15 Britain Today 10.30 Meridian Live 11.30 The World Today 11.45 Sport 12.00 Outlook 12.30 Megamix 1.30 The Farming World 1.45 Britain Today 2.30 Discovery 3.30 Meridian Live 4.05 Business Report 4.15 Sport 4.30 Europe

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths 7.00 Mike Read 8.00 Hall of Fame 10.00 Henry Kelly 1.00pm Concerto Sir Charles Villiers Stanford (Clarinet Concerto in A minor Op 89) 3.00 Jamie Lewis 7.00 Newsnight 7.30 Sonoma Philippe Galle 8.00 Mendelssohn (Concerto for 2 pianos in E major); Fanny Mendelssohn (Extracts from The Year) 10.00 Michael Mappin

VIRGIN RADIO

6.30am Russ 'n' Jono 10.00 Graham Dene 1.00pm Robin Clark 4.00 Nicky Home 6.00 Paul Coyte (FM) / Jeremy Banks (AM) 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00am Randal Lee Ross

RADIO 4

5.15 In Tune, with Geoffrey Baskerville. Includes Handel (Sonata in E minor, Op 2 No 1); Saint-Saëns (Piano Concerto No 5 in F).  
 7.30 Live at Turner House. Paul Gubbay introduces the fourth in a series of live recitals from Southampton. I Pagliotti, under Robert Hollingworth. Monteverdi (Altri Caniti d'Amor); Rinaldo (Overture); Puccini (Gloria); Debussy (L'après-midi d'un faune); Prokofiev (Sonata for violin and piano); Monteverdi (Chorale d'Oro); Gira Il Nemico Invisibile; Hor Cretel et La Tante 8.20 In The Dell by James Hamilton-Paterson, a young flute player describes the relationship between water and music 8.40 Concert, part two Monteverdi (Audi Coelum); Puccini (E); Castelli (Sonata in D minor); Paganini (Duo Concerto); Lessa (Overture); Monteverdi (Gloria).  
 9.30 Young Indians. Noah Richter meets Murali Kesavan whose novel Looking Through Glass follows the fortunes of a photographer at the time of the Gulf India movement.  
 9.55 The BBC Orchestra, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, conductor Elgar Howarth. Debussy (Prelude à l'après-midi d'un faune); Elgar (Nicolson (Brandsdram); Stravinsky (Suite, The Firebird, 1919 version).  
 10.45 Night Waves. Richard Cotes explores the way dogs have been represented by writers. Plus a report from the new Glyndebourne production of Puccini's first international success Manon Lescaut.  
 11.30 Composer of the Week: Letzar (1).  
 12.30am Jazz Notes. Blues singer Blue Luik talks to Alyn Shipton about working with some of the great jazz musicians.  
 1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

RADIO 4

deals with different levels of consciousness and...  
 4.45 Short Story: A Necessary Price, by Gillian Titchell. A woman has to confront a secret she has kept for more than 50 years.  
 6.00 PBL, with Charlie Lee Potter and Jon Soppe 6.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather.  
 6.00 Six O'Clock News.  
 6.30 Minor Adjustment, by Andy and Eric Merriman. Richard's widow, Sharon, has been about to come true. With Peter Davidson, Samantha Bond, Claire Russell and Sarah Merriman (4/5) (1).  
 7.00 News 7.05 The Archers.  
 7.20 File on 4, with Liz Jarrett. The series that deals with major issues, changing attitudes and important events at home and abroad.  
 8.00 Science Now (1).  
 8.20 The Network. See Choice.  
 9.00 In Touch. Peter White with news and features for visually impaired people.  
 9.30 Kaleidoscope (1) 9.35 Weather.  
 10.00 The World Tonight, with Isobel Hilton.  
 10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Grass is Singing, by Doris Lessing. Read by Janet Suzman (7/10).  
 11.00 Mediamix, with Vincent Hanna (1).  
 11.30 A Night with... Maggie O'Kane. Six people reflect on the significant part that night has played in their lives. The journalist Maggie O'Kane talks about the nights she will never forget in Bosnia, Baghdad and Cuba (1).  
 11.30 Today in Parliament (LW).  
 12.00 News (FM) and 12.27am Approx Weather.  
 12.30am The Late Book: A White Horse with Fine James Havers' bestselling novel, read by Michael Sheen (2/5).  
 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00am World Service

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# From cold collation to flash-fried red herrings

Typical. You wait ages for a decent suspect to turn up, and then a flash-fried red herring arrives. As Alan Bleasdale's *Melissa* (Channel 4) enters into the final stretch, the cold collation of the final episode is a bit of a letdown. The series has been struggling to warm up last week when the red-hot, they want you against doing this kind of thing when cooking-chicken apparently there is a risk that the rapid temperature change will not kill off all the bugs. Slow, thorough cooking is best. Actually, you could split the same advice label on this five-part homage to Francis Dufrenoy. After last Wednesday's episode, which ended with the murder of Jennifer Ehle's Melissa, even the Venus de Milo possessed enough fingers to point at all the credible suspects. Now, at last, our fingers have something to do apart from twitching above the "off" switch. Maybe it was Melissa's hubby

Guy Roster, the former war correspondent, but he has so little free time. When he isn't wrestling with his novel (writing one, not reading one), he seems far too busy kicking in television screens: it's a hobby that doesn't leave him much time for committing murders as well. Of course, we are all presuming that Guy's flamboyant tub-trashing eventually has some relevance to the drama. It is too bizarre a character trait to throw in just for the hell of it. But exactly how will it fit into the plot? It is hard to tell: for now, it just sits distractingly on top of events, like a cheap wig.

Then there is Melissa's psychiatrist, who seems to be in her debt and who is also being blackmailed: you can tell he is agitated about something because his eyeballs dart about uncontrollably, as if there were nothing anchoring them into their sockets. Don Page—a past-it racing driver who has always pined for Melissa

—is behaving oddly. He tries to kill himself by speeding his red Jag into a wall, the airbag inflates. It is a great commercial for Jaguar, but does a man who picks such a low-risk method of suicide (he is a professional driver, remember) have enough intelligence to commit a tangle of murders?

Paula, we now know, is Melissa's real mother. "I was 15 when I had her," she wails, in one of those scenes where the characters explain the plot. So was it Paula who pulled the trigger on Melissa's nasty foster parents in Cape Town in episode one? Julie Walters plays the part of Paula so fluently, she could easily be faking innocence as well. She keeps wailing "I killed her," which is neither here nor there in a murder mystery. But take it down: it may be used in evidence later.

As for Paula's husband, he is an all-purpose creep, so nobody minds pointing a spare finger at him. The dingo chantage? She is mad crazy for Don Page, and his heart has always belonged to Melissa, so maybe she did it to get rid of a rival. And why does Guy's old South Africa buddy, George, keep cropping up?

Still, thank God that Cameron and Kilshaw, played neatly by Bill Paterson and Michael Angelis, seem to be making headway at last. Thank God also that Bleasdale, who is one of our cleverest television scriptwriters, has at least given the two coppers some witty lines — although this only serves to highlight how hollow much of the dialogue has been. Apart from Foster's enigmatic ravings when he had writer's block ("I can't turn a train into a plane. I see a train... I haven't seen a plane all day"), the phrase that still jags in your brain is Melissa's admonishment to Guy: "Don't even begin to think you have the right to be anything other than the man I love." Explanations on a postcard, please.

If you have stuck with it so far, then presumably you will be tuning in for tonight's final episode. So will those of us who think that even if *Melissa* is not Bleasdale's best, it has been worth watching. Otherwise it would be like going to watch your team only when it got to the Cup Final.

## REVIEW



Joe Joseph

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Not everybody survives very long in a murder mystery, but they mostly survive longer than a mayfly. If you fancy a long life, then my advice is not to get reincarnated as a mayfly.

As George Woodward, a fishing gillie on the River Wye, said in *Tales From The River Bank* (BBC2), when a mayfly hatches into life "he must be thinking, great, I'll have me full 24 hours bonking and then I'm gonna die happy. Imagine how he feels when, just as he surfaces, a swallow or pied wagtail swoops down and eats him."

You especially do not want to be a mayfly on the first day of the salmon-fishing season in Scotland, when anglers gather to pray for success on the riverbank. They also presumably pray that none of their friends finds out how much they paid for their chance to catch their very own "king of fish."

because it is certainly a chunk more than the same fish would cost you at Waitrose. Of course, the difference is that these are "wild" salmon. But what is it that makes them so wild? Maybe it is all those men in tweeds trying to slip a hook through their mouths. That would be sure to make most us pretty wild. I would guess. George's big bugbear seems to be people who poach salmon. Maybe he prefers his fried. As I say, it is a world of mysterious passions, this fishing.

I was itching to see *The Antiques Show* (BBC2) because it was promising to show us how David Hare transforms junk-shop finds to look like priceless antiques. Maybe, I thought, this will give us some insight into how Hare whisked up those plays such as *Brassic* and *Plenty*. But it turned out to be a different David Hare. A pity that Francine Stock, the best thing about this show, gets such a small look-in.

## BBC1

- 6.00am Business Breakfast (84391)
- 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (89759)
- 9.00 Breakfast News Extra (896952)
- 9.25 Style Challenge (8317469)
- 9.45 Kilroy (7682117)
- 10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (31048)
- 11.00 News (7) (7406652)
- 11.05 The Great Escape (7663662)
- 11.35 Real Roads (7298058)
- 12.00 News (7) and weather (8039393)
- 12.05pm Cell My Bluff (7683339)
- 12.35 The Practice (9129339)
- 1.00 News (7) and weather (82846)
- 1.30 Regional News (86456952)
- 1.40 The Weather Show (9632339)
- 1.45 Neighbours (7) (40545681)
- 2.10 Country Walks to Curious Places (1086730)
- 2.20 Racing from Goodwood the 2.40, 3.10 and the 3.40 races (1700662)
- 2.55 News and weather (8424440)
- 3.00 Through the Keyhole (7285)
- 3.30 Playdays (8913407) 3.50 Playdays (8913407) 3.55 Arthur (916694) 4.20 Julie Jekyll and Harriet Hyde (7351198) 4.35 Round the Twist (1025407) 5.00 Newsround (7) (4263339) 5.10 Activ-8 (6052865)
- 5.35 Neighbours (7) (729579)
- 6.00 News (7) and weather (827)
- 6.30 Regional News (407)
- 7.00 Holiday: Fasten Your Seatbelt Monty Don becomes a holiday rep in Crete (7) (2594)
- 7.30 EastEnders (7) (391)
- 8.00 Children's Hospital Eight-year-old Andrew Hamilton has recurrent pneumonia (7) (821)
- 8.30 Goodnight Sweetheart Gary marvels at the creativity of his two partners. Last in series (7) (7049)
- 9.00 News (7) and weather (3881)
- 9.30 Carrott on Trial A new six-part series featuring the best of Jasper Carrott (82407) WALES: 9.30 Week in Week Out (82407) 10.00 Carrott on Trial (82730) 10.30 QED (32778) 11.00 Carnies Film Festival with Barry Norman (306488) 11.40 FILM: The Sting (8614643) 1.45 FILM: The Badest Room (5121995) 3.10 News (7) (8242353)
- 10.00 QED: Superspies Dr Josh Silver puts his invention to the test in Ghana (16730)
- 10.30 Cannes Film Festival with Barry Norman Barry reports from the annual star-studded extravaganza (477943)
- 11.10 The Sting (1973) Oscar-winning escapades, with Robert Redford and Paul Newman as two 1930s con men determined to wrangle petty mobster Robert Shaw out of a fortune as revenge for the murder of a mutual friend. Directed by George Roy Hill (7) (25675933)
- 1.15am The Badest Room (1969) with Spike Milligan, Ralph Richardson and Rita Tushingham. Surreal comedy, based on Miller's play, set in Berlin, devastated by nuclear war. Directed by Richard Lester (558976)
- 2.45 Weather (1717955)

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## For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday

### SKY 1

- 6.00am Morning Glory (884489) 9.00 Rage and Kathie Lee (5662) 10.00 Anneke World (2454) 11.00 Days of Our Lives (32504) 12.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (32504) 1.00pm Oprah Winfrey Show (32504) 2.00 Jerry Springer (82372) 3.00 Jerry Springer (82372) 4.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (32504) 5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (32504) 6.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (32504) 7.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (32504) 8.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (32504) 9.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (32504) 10.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (32504) 11.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (32504) 12.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (32504)

### SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

### SKY MOVIES

- 6.00am The Mummy (1979) (5415320) 7.00 Curse of the Mummy (1979) (5415320) 8.00 Curse of the Mummy (1979) (5415320) 9.00 Curse of the Mummy (1979) (5415320) 10.00 Curse of the Mummy (1979) (5415320) 11.00 Curse of the Mummy (1979) (5415320) 12.00 Curse of the Mummy (1979) (5415320)

### THE MOVIE CHANNEL

- 6.00am My Little Pony: The Movie (1986) (70201) 8.00am The Movie Channel (70201)

## BBC2

- 6.00am Open University: San Marco: a Dominican Priory The Florentine monastery (8132407) 6.30am Open University: San Marco: a Dominican Priory The Florentine monastery (8132407) 7.00am Open University: San Marco: a Dominican Priory The Florentine monastery (8132407) 7.30am Open University: San Marco: a Dominican Priory The Florentine monastery (8132407) 8.00am Open University: San Marco: a Dominican Priory The Florentine monastery (8132407) 8.30am Open University: San Marco: a Dominican Priory The Florentine monastery (8132407) 9.00am Open University: San Marco: a Dominican Priory The Florentine monastery (8132407) 9.30am Open University: San Marco: a Dominican Priory The Florentine monastery (8132407) 10.00am Open University: San Marco: a Dominican Priory The Florentine monastery (8132407) 10.30am Open University: San Marco: a Dominican Priory The Florentine monastery (8132407) 11.00am Open University: San Marco: a Dominican Priory The Florentine monastery (8132407) 11.30am Open 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## RUGBY UNION 49

Lions feel heat as injury forces Grayson to sidelines

# SPORT

TUESDAY MAY 20 1997

## BOXING 54

Tribute fit for a king? Ali debate rumbles on



# Wilkinson plots England success through succession



Wilkinson: refreshing

Howard Wilkinson, the technical director of the Football Association, made an impassioned plea last night for wide-ranging change in English football when he revealed his Charter for Quality, designed to drag England back to the forefront of the world game.

The most high-level proposal, amid a host of sweeping alterations, is that the successor to Glenn Hoddle as England coach should become part of the FA coaching hierarchy early next year and be groomed within that set-up rather than continue to cut his teeth in the FA Coaching Premiership.

That would bring England in line with countries like Germany, where Bert Vogts served an apprenticeship under Franz Beckenbauer, and Italy, where Cesare Maldini was

the understudy to Arrigo Sacchi, before they progressed to the top job.

Wilkinson, who has been in situ for more than 100 days and has talked extensively to Hoddle about the move, hinted strongly that the man he had in mind was English. He hoped to move towards recommending him around January next year and expected his choice to be accepted by the FA.

"In principle," Wilkinson said, "I feel it is sensible and right that the next manager should have been working with the international teams and getting to know them. It should be someone who has decided that that is the career path he would like to take."

"I do not think that something as important should be left in the lurch if someone ups and aways or if the

The FA's new broom makes a case for grooming.  
Oliver Holt, football correspondent, sweeps up

FA decides that the time has come for a change. In both those instances, it would be 'Oops, where do we go from here?' under the current system."

The success of the proposal, which, like the rest of Wilkinson's charter, will be subject to approval by the FA Council, would depend on a coach's willingness to forego a tilt at domestic and European honours at club level. Despite the rather faint support of Graham Kelly, the FA chief executive, who would only say that he agreed with the "general thrust" of this particular plan, the feeling is that it represents the way forward.

It was hard, in fact, to disagree with any of the thoughts that the former Leeds United manager put forward, largely as a result of consultations with representatives of every FA Premier League and Football League club. It is the difficulty he may face in implementing them that is his Achilles' heel.

One of his central tenets, for instance, is the laudable desire to limit the number of games for young players to 30 a season. The problem, though, is that as soon as they graduate to a Premier League club, they would be expected to play closer to 45 games. About that, there was no mention.

That, though, is outside Wilkinson's jurisdiction and his charter, which has already drawn praise from his French counterpart, Gerard Houllier, was a refreshing attempt to sweep away some of the abuses that hinder the development of young English footballers.

One of his first steps would be to persuade Premier and Football League clubs to establish football academies and centres of excellence. These academies, which would take responsibility for the development of young players, away from schools, would take charge of all talented players between the ages of eight and 21. He is also seeking to establish a National Football Centre.

"This charter states categorically that the best environment in which to develop talent is inside our major

professional clubs as part of a academy structure within the club framework," Wilkinson said.

"Coaches abroad rub their hands in glee at the fact that we are not making the most of the potential we have in this country at the moment. They are happy with the fixture overcrowding. They are happy with what we do with our schoolboys. They are happy that they do not get as much coaching as they should do. They are happy that the coaches who work at that level are underqualified. They are happy in the sense that it provides less competition for them."

"What we are talking about here involves a sea-change. I have got fed up with people saying what we cannot do without saying what the problem is. Nothing ever got done about it."

Edwards denies contract row

## Mystery grows over sudden exit of Cantona

By DAVID MADDOCK

PREDICTABLY, the enigma of Eric Cantona hung heavily around Old Trafford yesterday, even in the absence of the departed icon. As supporters laid flowers and scarves at the ground, in a surreal, funereal commemoration of his passing, conspiracy theories abounded about his underlying motives in announcing his retirement.

As Cantona himself might say, the truth has many faces. There were suggestions that all was not as it seemed when Manchester United revealed the news to the world on Sunday. Already, the French media has been gripped by suggestions that their countryman was forced out of England because of a row over a new contract. There were also hints that the retired forward has not, in fact, put away his boots for the final time.

In France, there is indignation about Cantona's departure from Old Trafford. Le

Soir has reported a suggestion by Jean Jacques Bertrand, the player's lawyer, that a refusal by the club's board to extend the remaining year of Cantona's contract led to the decision to retire. The argument, also lent credence by some United supporters, goes that the decision was a financial one inspired by the plc that runs Manchester United.

ITF details ..... 50.51

It is a suggestion that is refuted adamantly by Martin Edwards, the United chairman and chief executive, who has grown weary of the allegations aimed constantly at the public company. "I really feel I shouldn't get involved in any argument, because there is nothing for me to defend," he said, "but this kind of thing is absolute nonsense. There has been no row over contract

discussions, because we have not had any talks with Eric at all."

If Cantona, who is 31 this week, was not forced to leave Old Trafford because of a lack of appreciation of his talents, then there is an alternative theory that suggests he has retired with the long-term aim of resurfacing elsewhere. The France international retired once before, when he left Nimes, but returned to football when he joined Leeds United in 1991.

Bernard Ferrer, his brother-in-law, is a midfield player with Marseilles. Cantona's hometown club and the team with which many people felt he would one day have ended his career. "Six years in England have drained Eric and I think he was weary of that," Ferrer said, "but I think he still wants to play football. He needs a rest, but he could return after that."

Cantona was approached by Marseilles last week, when it was suggested that there could be a place for him should he decide to leave Manchester United, but yesterday a club official said that there were no plans to bring their former player back.

There was, however, another hint that Cantona's playing days are not over. He has a contract with Nike, the American sportswear firm, and it suggested yesterday

Bernard Schuster, the former Barcelona, Real Madrid and Germany midfielder player, is the favourite to fill the vacant managerial post at Reading. John Madejski, the chairman, will begin interviewing candidates this week, with Schuster, 36, who has been coaching in Mexico, keen to be involved in the English game.

that it would be standing by the player and intended to use him in the future.

If the speculation over Cantona's departure reached intense proportions, then it was equally fierce over the identity of the man who is likely to replace the Frenchman. Manchester United have expressed a strong interest in Juninho and are likely to table a formal bid for the Brazilian this week. Already, they have made strong overtures and have made contact with Middlesbrough, his club, in order to obtain permission to speak to the player.

Juninho flew to Brazil on Sunday for a holiday, but his father, Oswaldo, remained at the family home on Teesside to conduct negotiations. Liverpool, Arsenal and Newcastle United are among the English clubs vying for the player's signature, but yesterday it became clear that Spain is still his favoured destination.

Oswaldo was in talks with officials from Atletico Madrid, who flew to Middlesbrough yesterday to open negotiations with the club. Should Juninho be given permission to speak to the Spanish side, then his father will fly to Madrid on Friday to continue talks over a contract thought to be worth in the region of £40,000 a week.



Montgomerie gives a short-iron approach his full attention yesterday

## Torrance and Montgomerie rise to matchplay challenge

By JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

WHAT they say about Scots and money may be pejorative, but in the European qualifying stage of the Andersen Consulting world championship at the Buckinghamshire golf club yesterday, the world's second-richest golf tournament, Colin Montgomerie and Sam Torrance both raised their games significantly. No sooner had Torrance dispatched Ian Woosnam surprisingly easily than Montgomerie had less difficulty than he had anticipated in beating José Maria Olazábal.

A matchplay tournament is welcome on the European Tour, as a change from an otherwise endless diet of strokeplay events. Though rain dampened proceedings yesterday, it was no surprise that two of the winners, Torrance and Darren Clarke, both love this form of the game and, in Clarke's case, had spectacular success at it as an amateur. In one year, he won the Spanish amateur championship and three important Irish events.

"I love matchplay golf," Torrance said. "I love to get aggressive, I like going for things and the one-to-one. The way Torrance putted, you could understand all his rivals endorsing the notion that broomhandle putters should be banned, even though the

Royal and Ancient Golf Club confirmed yesterday that nothing will be done until 2000 at the earliest — and not necessarily then.

Torrance was approximately six under par when he defeated Woosnam 4 and 3. From the moment he won the list, he held the whip hand. When he holed a 70-yard pitch on the 11th to go two-up and followed this by holing a 15-yard putt on the 12th and hitting his second to five feet on the 13th, he was home, if not dry. Torrance's form has

Woods bandwagon ..... 52

been on the turn and a ninth Ryder Cup appearance may not be out of his reach if he really is running into a vein of form that he can sustain.

Montgomerie had been anxious about his match against Olazábal, but, as it happened, his worries were unfounded. Olazábal is beginning to look tired and his golf was merely competent and without sparkle. The final of the 1984 Amateur Championship, when his short game was little short of miraculous as he beat Montgomerie 5 and 4, was but a memory. Yesterday, Montgomerie won 2 and 1, even though he was putting

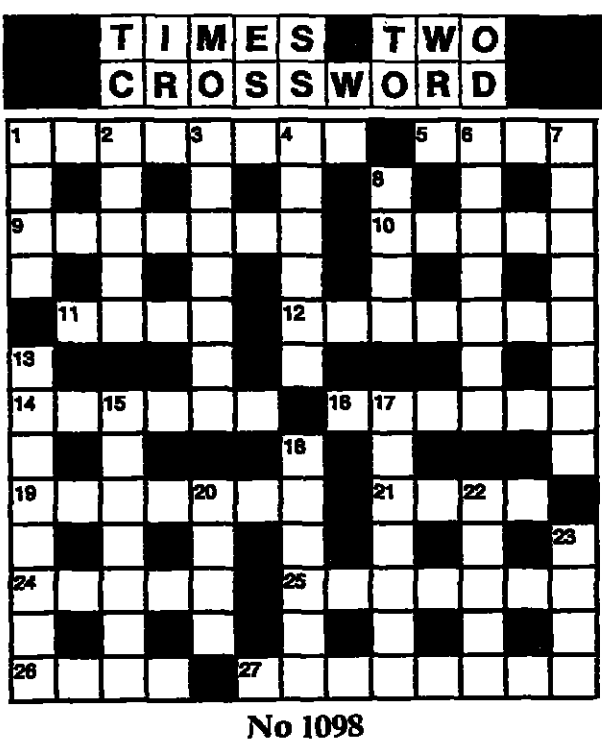
so poorly that he failed to hole four from inside eight feet.

We have heard before how Montgomerie is hitting the ball well from tee to green and putting badly. He says the problem is getting worse. "I did not think my putting would get so low," he said. "It's a bit worrying that they are not going in as they used to. There is no pattern to the way I am missing. I am not going to do anything with my putter, but Alistair [Montgomerie's caddy] might be."

On the last two par threes, Montgomerie demonstrated how he can resolve his putting difficulties, hitting the ball so close with mid-irons that even he could not miss. He struck a six-iron to three feet at the 14th and a five-iron to four feet at the 16th.

The prize-money at this event is staggering, totalling £2.35 million. Montgomerie and Torrance, who each won £25,000 yesterday, will face one other in one semi-final this morning. The winner will get a further £38,000, the loser £19,000. The other semi-final will be between Clarke and Costantino Rocca. Nice work if you can get it.

RESULTS: Quarter-finals: C Montgomerie (Scot) 2 and 1 J M Olazábal (Sp) 2 and 1; S Torrance (Scot) 1 and 1 I Woosnam (Wls) 4 and 3; D Clarke (N Irel) 1 and 1 B Lengua (Ger) 2 and 1; C Rocca (It) 1 and 1 J Parnell (Wls) at 20th.



No 1098

- ACROSS
- 1 Thrash, furiously criticise (5)
  - 5 False god (4)
  - 9 Tour guide (7)
  - 10 Of the city (5)
  - 11 Blood vessel (4)
  - 12 Needing hard work (7)
  - 14 Portable wireless (coll.) (6)
  - 16 Wet-plaster work (6)
  - 19 Gun, bullet diameter (7)
  - 21 Bird's cricket score (4)
  - 24 Carnivore: rugby tourists (5)
  - 25 Rescue from wreck (7)
  - 26 Primitive offensive (4)
  - 27 Type of number, point, virtue (8)

- DOWN
- 1 Be without (4)
  - 2 Computer clicker (5)
  - 3 Fr. city, dancing sur its pont (7)
  - 4 Ape-reared aristocrat (Burroughs) (6)
  - 6 Having reservations (7)
  - 7 Unlikely bet (4,4)
  - 8 Supply of earmarked money (4)
  - 13 One demanding punctiliousness (8)
  - 15 In summary (3,4)
  - 17 Roughed: scruffy (7)
  - 18 Japanese hostess (6)
  - 20 Hit party: attempt (4)
  - 22 Group of shops: 22 yards (5)
  - 23 Cut down: ruthless (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1097  
ACROSS: 1 Camp 3 Browbeat 8 Caliban 10 Extol  
11 Crestfallen 13 Oracle 15 Castle 17 Symmetrical  
20 Drain 21 Edward V 22 Ministry 23 Hall  
DOWN: 1 Cockerow 2 Mélite 4 Rental 5 Wheelbarrow  
6 Extinct 7 Tule 9 Battlements 12 Sea level 14 Abstain  
16 Veneer 18 Curia 19 Edam

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